

SDAY JUNE 25 1996

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OPINION

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THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT  
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# Move to end rumours about Hogg Major urged to announce early reshuffle

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

**How Parliament could change**  
The Prime Minister will counter opposition plans for constitutional change today when he puts forward proposed reforms of the working of Parliament.

John Major will suggest that the Queen's Speech should move from November to May and that it should set out Bills planned for the following two years, rather than one as at present. That would give extra time for select committees and interested parties to examine draft legislation before it is put before the Commons.

Mr Major will outline his plans in a speech to the Centre for Policy Studies during which he will oppose "change for change's sake". Mr Major believes that Labour's plans would weaken Parliament, which, he says, is supreme because it is the voice of the people and "the focus for the country at times of national grief, outrage and conflict".

There is also pressure within the Cabinet for Mr Hogg to be removed, and Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, is among those who think he should go.

The Agriculture Minister has made mistakes during the beef crisis and some of his exchanges with his European colleagues have been un diplomatic, but Mr Major's friends believe the Prime Minister would prefer not to drop him.

They also believe, however, that Mr Hogg's position - in common with others under attack - will become untenable if the propaganda against them is allowed to continue throughout July.

Mr Major will therefore be advised to focus on the changes when he returns from the G7 summit of industrialised nations in Lyons at the weekend. He could then announce replacements for Mr Eggar, the Energy Minister, and Mr Norris, the Transport Minister, next week, along with the consequent changes in the lower ranks.

If he remains of the view that he does not want to alter the Cabinet, he could then make plain that no further changes were envisaged before the general election.

Mr Major has let it be known only this week that he sees no reason to move Mr Hogg, and that he does not take kindly to Cabinet ministers trying to carry out his reshuffles for him.

Even so, ministers were briefing that Mr Hogg's days were numbered, minutes after Roger Freeman, the Public Service Minister, had told the Commons that he was safe in his job.

A senior minister close to Mr Major said yesterday: "There are a lot of ambitious people out there. Some of them are certain we will lose the election and are desperate to get the rank of Cabinet minister on their CVs before we go down."

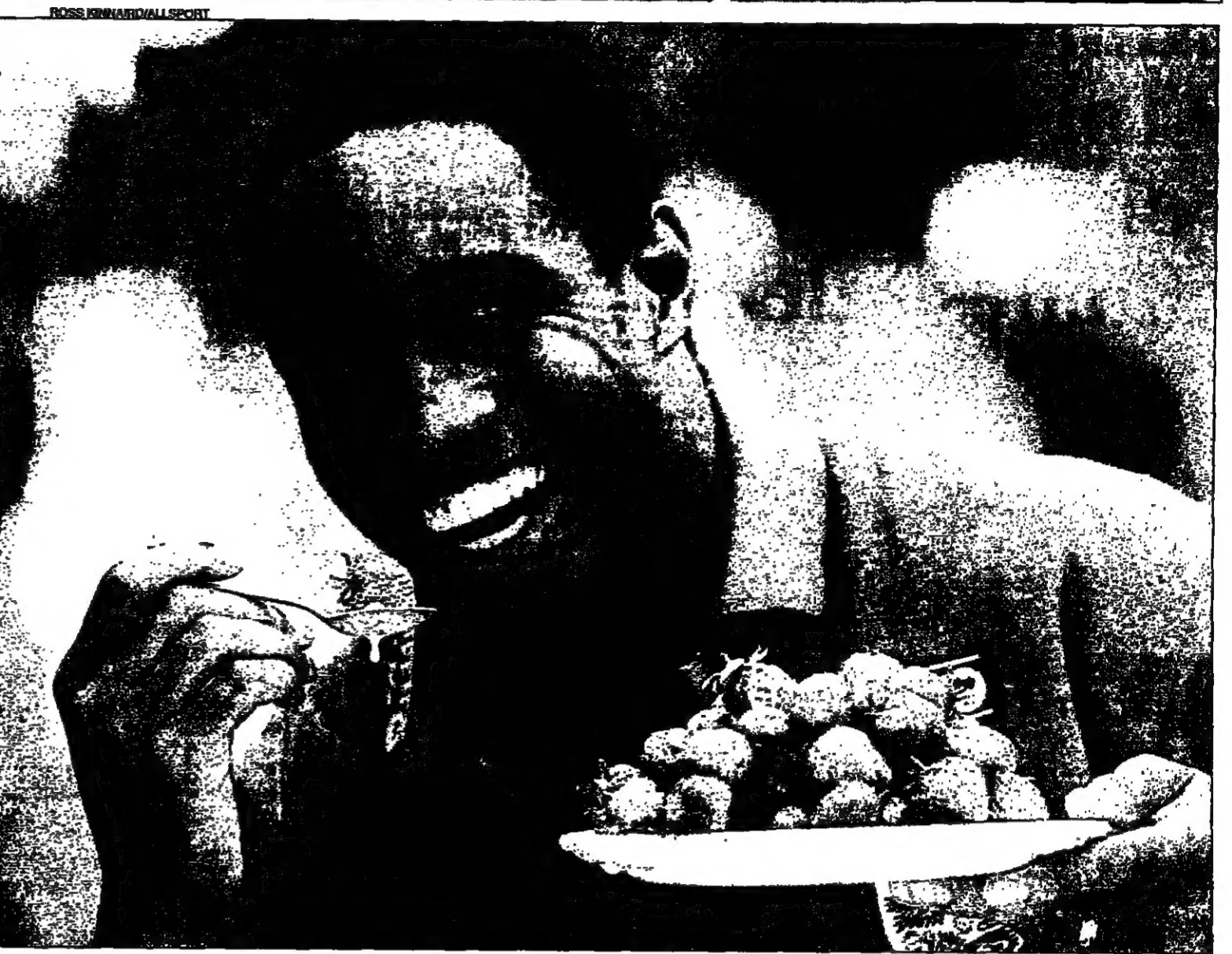
Reports that David Davis, the Minister of State for European Affairs, was on the point of resignation because of his frustration over the Government's approach to the beef crisis before it declared its policy of non-cooperation with Europe, are dominating conversations among Conservative MPs.

Mr Davis's Euro-sceptic friends are blaming senior pro-Europeans for spreading the stories to destroy his chances of getting into the Cabinet and to secure promotion for ministers such as Nicholas Soames and David Curry.

However, Mr Davis is also felt by some MPs to have done his own prospects little good by reacting slowly to the reports when they first appeared last Thursday night, with the result that they gained momentum and made the front pages of many newspapers.

Mr Major's circle is meanwhile blaming the Tory Right for recent reports suggesting that the Prime Minister was at odds with Mrs Shephard over selection and grammar schools.

Although the Downing Street policy unit headed by Norman Blackwell has consistently been pushing a radical line on education, it is understood there have been regular discussions between Mrs Shephard and Mr Major at which they agreed the pace of change outlined in yesterday's White Paper.



Paul Ince, the England midfielder, hopes for a fruitful outcome in tonight's semi-final against Germany when the teams clash at Wembley

## Football sends England fans rushing home

BY ADRIAN LEE AND DIANA THORP

MILLIONS will rush home from work tonight to take their television seats for England's soccer clash with Germany in the Euro 96 semi-final.

In addition to 76,000 fans at Wembley, another 20 million are expected to watch on television. A spokesman for the AA said: "The rush hour will be much more concentrated than normal. Roads will be deserted during the game."

Theatre-goers are voting for an early night, too. A spokesman for the Garrick Theatre, in London's West End, said half their seats are unsold for this evening. The English National Opera also reported empty spaces and the Ritz Restaurant blamed football for a fall in bookings.

The Engineering Employers Federation has invited 500 people to a dinner at the Guildhall tonight but the number was dwindling by the hour last night. And a party hosted by the Foreign Office has been cancelled. But some workers will miss England's biggest match for six years. Employers at Vauxhall, one of the sponsors of Euro 96, refused to allow workers to clock on late at their Luton plant and make up time afterwards, saying it would affect production lines. A company spokesman said workers could listen on radios. Electricity companies were preparing for a power surge after the game but said yesterday they should have no trouble coping with demand.

The England fans' anthem, *Three Lions* by the Lightning Seeds, is expected to regain the top position in the music charts on Sunday. HMV said there had been a tenfold increase in sales.

Meanwhile, England fans are rushing to buy their warpaint for tonight's semi-final. There is only one drawback. All the best-selling body paints are made in Germany. John Major yesterday wished the England team well and said the tournament so far had been a "stunning success". His comments followed criticism of some tabloid newspapers, and the *Daily Mirror* in particular, amid claims that their treatment of the match was insulting to the Germans. The Prime Minister congratulated the teams and spectators on the spirit they have displayed during those games. "It has been a friendly, carnival atmosphere so far. I hope nothing changes between now and the final."

Mirror protest, page 2  
Letters, page 21  
Sense of occasion, page 52

## Redwood on the German problem

A controversial demand for Britain to be ready to stand up to German bullying and to resist Chancellor Kohl's vision of a European state is delivered by John Redwood in *The Times* today.

With politicians trying to lower nationalist passions in advance of tonight's game, Mr Redwood raises the political temperature by calling on Britain to give alternative leadership in Europe. Helmut Kohl, he says, is living in the past.

White Paper, page 8  
Simon Jenkins, page 20  
Leading article, page 21

## Grammar streams may return next year

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

MINISTERS aim to rush through legislation to revive grammar schools and give comprehensives freedom to select more bright pupils.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, said that "grammar streams" could be introduced in some comprehensive schools in September next year as a result of the White Paper published yesterday. Local authority schools would be allowed to select a fifth of pupils, even if councilors objected, and governors and parents would have to consider introducing selection every year.

Mrs Shephard admitted, however, that it would be "touch and go" whether the measures reached the statute book before the election.

White Paper, page 8  
Simon Jenkins, page 20  
Leading article, page 21

## Joy for British aces

BY JOANNA BALE

BRITISH tennis boasted two great victories at Wimbledon yesterday as Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski won their matches in nail-biting style. Henman beat Yevgeny Kafelnikov, of Russia, 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 4-6, 7-5 in a 3hr 30min epic and Rusedski beat Canada's Daniel Nestor 7-6, 7-6, 6-2. Seven British men are now through to the second round.

Wimbledon reports, pages 46, 47 and 52

## Woolwich deal for Robinson

Peter Robinson, the former chief executive of the Woolwich Building Society, has signed a confidential deal with his former employer giving him a pension of at least £133,000 a year.

Mr Robinson, 54, who had a two-year contract and an annual salary of £300,000, left the society abruptly in April over allegations of irregularities, including using society resources for work on his home. He has denied the allegations.

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The Times on the Internet

http://www.the-times.co.uk

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## Team captain misses a sitter for a less than satisfactory result

**O**K, nobody expected John Major to stand at the dispatch box and shout "Stiff the Krauts!" Nobody wanted him to sing "Ere we go, ere we go." No one was asking him to chant "Two-nil to the Ing-er-land!" From any Prime Minister, but especially this one, a shout of "Away the lads!" would sound wrong in the Commons.

But was it too much to ask him to say out loud that he wanted England to win?

"I hope," said the Prime Minister, "they play well and

have a satisfactory result." A satisfactory result? Spit it out, John: say it for heaven's sake. Win! Three little letters, one little word: one plain, unambiguous hope: a firm coming-down on this side of the fence.

But not something deep in Mr Major's peculiar psyche had gagged at the sheer, naked commitment of the word "win" and, as the ball of his argument spun straight towards an open goal, headed it off sideways on to the post. Awesome words, those little

ones, like "win", "lose", "love", "hate", "reject", "accept". Through the weird and fascinating marshes of John Major's unconscious mind cruise deadly, pith-detecting missiles, their mission plain: "Seek and destroy meaning!"

Pith-warning! Pith-warning! Danger lights flash and sirens wail. "Red alert! The Prime Minister is approaching a definite statement! Mr Major is about to mean something! Avert! Evade! Abort!" Even his own Cabinet colleagues could not conceal their



MATTHEW PARRIS  
POLITICAL SKETCH

mirth. Good-natured John McFall (Lab, Dumbarton) had offered up a patsy question, inviting Mr Major to wish England well tonight and to condemn tabloid xenophobia.

This offered Major two free kicks: the chance to say "win", or perhaps even (snakes alive) "score" or (horrors!) "goal", and at the same time to

condemn the *Daily Mirror*, a Labour-leaning paper which would stamp on his neck if it got the chance. But could Mr Major hope for a "win", or condemn the *Daily Mirror*? Could he heck. "Win" became "satisfactory result", "Daily Mirror", "a certain tabloid newspaper". We half expected him to wish England

a staged framework for the achievement of goals. This sort of thing is quite instinctive with Mr Major, whose prose I have been submitting to textual analysis for some years. It is absolutely not the case that his panic-stricken grasp for an ambiguous phrase whenever a plain-speaking word looms arises from any ambiguity in his own thought. He knows very clearly what he wants and thinks. The fear (which is unconscious) is of saying it. Nor does this dislike of

being clear arise from mendacity. Major is more honest than his predecessor, but he would express himself punchily even when her intention was to mislead. In short, far from using ambiguity to further his own advantage, Mr Major sells himself short by hesitating to say what he could easily say and knows he thinks.

If, as this Prime Minister speaks, you follow the pre-released texts of his speeches, you will notice his habit of departing from the script wherever it contains a short,

brisk, taut sentence. He snaps the backbone of his speechwriter's drafts by inserting dead phrases like "now, in the past, or in the months and years ahead". Required to read a three-word sentence — "Nor will I!" — Mr Major will find himself saying "Nor will I, er, do so."

He does this automatically, self-defeatingly. Even while acting decisively, Major is intuitively averse to the sound of decisiveness. It must reflect some deep, childhood terror of being pinned down.

## Major defies Tory revolt on military homes sale

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

**J**OHAN MAJOR set himself on a collision course with dozens of Tory MPs yesterday by brushing aside demands to stop the £1.6 billion sale of Armed Forces' married quarters.

The Prime Minister took a tough line in backing the sale of 58,000 homes in the face of one of the biggest threatened rebellions against the Government. Only hours after 65 Conservative MPs told ministers that the sale would destroy service morale and allow developers to "cream off" the best housing, Mr Major insisted that opposition was based on misunderstanding. His stance infuriated several backbenchers who said he had been "ill-advised". One senior MP added: "He will be made to regret those words."

The sale, planned for September, has angered the Royal British Legion, the Army Families Federation and other service organisations which claim that the proposal will lead to the break-up of Armed Forces housing over the next 25 years. Labour is preparing to force a vote on the issue before the Commons recess next month.

Yesterday Tony Blair seized on the mounting Tory dissent by claiming that ministers were pushing the proposals with "indecent haste". Backbench Tories, including several former ministers, have led the campaign to force the Government to put the proposals before MPs and peers.

The Treasury-driven plan involves the sale and lease-back of military homes for up to 25 years, to save money on the running of 800 housing sites in England and Wales, where 20 per cent of houses are vacant. Senior Tory sources admitted that the strength of backbench feeling had caught ministers off-guard.

Mr Major told MPs that the proposed sale would free £100 million to refurbish and improve poor-quality housing. He rejected suggestions by the Labour leader that service estates would be broken up, that the taxpayer would lose out and that the Ministry of Defence would lose control of the housing stock.

The Prime Minister said: "It is going to release substantial sums of money for improving and refurbishing service families' homes. There will be little change for the occupants. It will emphatically not mean that the service people's rents will rise. It will not mean problem families being dumped on MoD estates and it will not mean service personnel being moved against their will."

## Crowds come out to greet Prince in Belfast

By NICHOLAS WATT  
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

**T**HE Prince of Wales was mobbed by cheering supporters in Belfast yesterday as he met Protestants and Roman Catholics on the first day of the biggest royal visit to Northern Ireland for two decades.

One elderly admirer broke through a crowd of up to 1,000 during a walkabout in North Belfast to plant a kiss on his cheek. Hannah Caldwell, 84, who wore a Union Jack hat and was dressed in the colours of the flag, grabbed the Prince and told him to make up with the Princess of Wales.

Mrs Caldwell, a widowed grandmother, said afterwards: "I told him to get together again. He said, 'Ah all right'."

The Prince visited the loyalist area after arriving on board the *Britannia*. He will be in the Province for three days.

One of his first engagements was at Mountcollyer youth club, in North Belfast, where he met young people from both sides of the community and from the Irish Republic.

The club is less than a mile from the scene of last Friday's disturbance when republicans threw petrol bombs at the RUC in protest at a loyalist Orange march.

The Prince had a taste of the difficulties of living in Belfast when a Roman Catholic member of Belfast Youth Forum told him of her fears of crossing the "peace line" to meet him at the club. Louise Ward, 17, said: "I told him that I was a bit worried



The Prince receiving a warm welcome in North Belfast from Hannah Caldwell, 84

about coming because it is a Protestant area. The peace line is not a barrier, but it is a line I would not normally cross."

A Protestant youth group that has been on holiday with Roman Catholics was asked by the Prince why nationalists and Unionists still fought each other. Lisa Vokes, 17, said: "We told him that we felt intimidated by them."

Paula O'Sullivan, 16, of Cork Youth Development Centre, who was invited to Northern Ireland by the Prince's Trust, was impressed by the patron. She said: "He asked me about the differences between Belfast and Cork. He was very nice and down to earth."

The *Britannia* is expected to sail around the North Antrim coast today before

docking in Londonderry. It is the first time that *Britannia* has docked in the Province's harbours. When the Queen visited for two days in 1977 the ship moored off the coast because of security fears.

One of the main aims of the visit is to boost Northern Ireland's tourism industry. The Prince is expected to visit a number of tourist attractions in the Province.

## Scrolls find

**C**ontinued from page 1  
Although virtually nothing is known about their provenance, their attribution has been confirmed by Professor Richard Salomon, based at the University of Washington in Seattle.

He is one of the world's greatest scholars of Kharosthi — a script derived from the Aramaic alphabet that was restricted to a small area of India. They are, he said, "the Dead Sea Scrolls of Buddhism".

Years of study lie ahead before the text can be deciphered, analysed and compared with existing texts.

The fragments include sales told on Lake Anavatapta's banks at an assembly of the Buddha and his disciples. Buddhists believe in reincarnation and each explains his deeds in a former life and how they influenced this one.

Just getting a peek at the text proved difficult. Those involved had to uncurl the "cigars" whose fragility was a conservator's nightmare. Mr Shaw said: "It is fiendishly brittle material. The first question was, 'will these ever unroll or will they simply crumble into many pieces?'"

"There have been reports in old excavations of things like this having been found and the moment they were touched they crumbled to dust."

In just purchasing them, he explained, "we were taking a risk. One didn't know whether they were salvageable."

"We put them in a bell jar overnight and allowed them to be slowly moistened", he explained. "Then we took the next awful step. Holding our breath, one of our conservators used tweezers and began unrolling, and another applied more moisture, without saturating it."

Mr Shaw said that the exact origin is unknown beyond that they were probably found in Afghanistan in earthenware jars. These, too, may be original pieces, but tests have yet to be conducted on them.

What we believe, page 19

## IRA haul included new type of bomb

By NICHOLAS WATT  
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

**J**ohn Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, said yesterday that Irish Police discovered a new type of IRA bomb when they uncovered a terrorist bomb-making factory in the Republic last week. He told the Irish Parliament that dozens of the bombs, which are believed to be a new type of mortar, were being prepared for early use.

Hours after his comments Irish police displayed the haul, uncovered during a raid on a bunker in Clonsilla, Co. Laois, last week. The arms, which included live mortars, launchers, and explosives, also included a new type of timing device. Four men charged over the find were remanded in custody by Dublin's Special Criminal Court yesterday until July 9.

## Talks to avert Tube strike fail

**A** near-total shutdown of the London Underground network is expected tomorrow after conciliation talks aimed at averting a one-day strike failed. More than 2,000 drivers belonging to the Aslef union will refuse to work from midnight tonight in a dispute over pay and working hours. Dockland Light Railway and mainline trains will run as normal.

## Devices on line stop trains

**T**rains on the Settle-Carlisle line were stopped for several hours last night after homemade devices linked to animal-rights activists were found near by. Police believe the target was a nearby poultry farm at Langwathby, Cumbria. The devices, including petrol bombs, were found in a holdall and a rucksack. Army bomb disposal experts examined the find.

## Revenge killer jailed for life

**A** clerk who stabbed a solicitor eight years after being sacked from a law firm for stealing £150 was jailed for life. John Vine, 39, of Thornhill, Southampton, was found guilty of the murder of Nigel Lightfoot, 60, senior partner at Lampert Bassett At Winchester Crown Court. Vine admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility or provocation.

## Bailiffs descend on Birmingham

**B**ailiffs entered the offices of Birmingham City Council yesterday and threatened to seize the assets of England's largest local authority over a debt of £200,000. The bailiffs toured Birmingham's Council House compiling an inventory of the Labour-controlled council's more valuable possessions. A cheque was signed by the city's finance director within an hour.

## Surrogate mother loses adoption ruling appeal

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

**A** SURROGATE mother who accepted £8,000 in exchange for her baby lost a court action yesterday to try to have him returned to her. The mother, aged 38, said she had regretted her role as a surrogate from the moment her son was born in March last year.

Three Appeal Court judges ruled that the couple to whom the women gave the baby are free to adopt him, although buying babies for adoption is illegal in Britain.

The judges, ruling in the Court of Session in Edinburgh, said that the welfare of the baby was the main consideration. The adoptive parents, a Fife police officer and his wife, were described in court as "excellent parents".

Counsel for the natural mother, Ms S, said she was too distressed at the time of the birth to know what she was doing and her consent at that

stage should be disregarded. Ms S has four other children by a man who does not live with her. The court heard that she was living on benefit at the time and had falsely stated on the form sent to her by the surrogate agency which arranged the initial meeting that she was cohabiting.

Mr and Mrs C met Ms S in July 1994 and Ms S artificially inseminated herself with Mr C's sperm.

Ms S asked for a cheque for £1,000 in November 1994. On March 30 1995 the baby was born in a hospital in the north of England. Mr and Mrs C went to the labour ward and placed two cheques for £2,000 and £5,000 along with a bracelet in the mother's overnight bag. Mrs C then fed the baby with a bottle.

The court heard that the baby had bonded well with the adoptive couple and that the

natural mother was a stranger to him. A month after the birth Ms S told her doctor she wanted her baby back and the legal battle began.

She took her case to the Scottish courts and in February a sheriff ruled that Ms S had acted unreasonably in withholding adoption consent. He also ruled that Mr and Mrs C had broken the law by contravening the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 by making a payment of £8,000.

He refused to make an adoption order and instead he gave the adoptive parents custody of the child and banned the natural mother from visiting the baby.

Yesterday Lord Hope, sitting with Lord Allanbridge and Lord Weir rejected the Ms S's claims and ruled in favour of the couple, allowing them to adopt the baby.

## Vauxhall boycotts 'jingoistic' tabloids

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

**O**NE of the country's biggest advertisers is boycotting the *Daily Mirror* and the *Daily Star* in protest against the papers' xenophobic coverage of the Euro 96 football championships.

Vauxhall, which spends £56 million a year on advertising and is an official sponsor of Euro 96, said it had decided not to run advertisements for its Vectra saloon car in today's editions of the two tabloids because it had been offended by their coverage on Monday, which compared tonight's semi-final clash between England and Germany with the Second World War.

Wolfgang Schubert, Vauxhall's marketing communications director, who happens to be German, said last night that the company wanted to reflect the buoyant mood of England supporters by running a "fun" and "typical" press advertisement to

coincide with today's match. "We think it is important not to offend anyone, so we have run the Vectra ad in every national newspaper except those papers which we feel have gone too far," he said.

The *Daily Mirror's* front page on Monday included the headlines "Mirror Declares Football War on Germany" and "Achtung! Surrender ... For you Fritz, ze Euro 96 Championship is over", and an open letter to readers written in the style of Neville Chamberlain's famous radio broadcast announcing the outbreak of war in 1939. The *Daily Star* also drew heavily on wartime imagery.

The Press Complaints Commission received a record number of 260 telephone calls yesterday from readers protesting against the *Mirror's* anti-German coverage.

Diary, page 20

## Ruling on refugees' housing overturned

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

**T**HOUSANDS of penniless asylum seekers have been unlawfully denied council housing, the Appeal Court ruled yesterday. The decision was made by the same three judges who last week overturned the Government's benefit curbs on asylum seekers.

The judges unanimously decided that four London councils were wrong to exclude the refugees from shelter and must now reconsider.

Lord Justice Neill said that the applicants' status as destitute asylum seekers could amount to a "special reason" why local authorities should treat them as having a "priority need" entitling them to temporary accommodation.

Lord Justice Brown said: "I see no good reason why someone likely to suffer injury or detriment through a total inability to clothe, feed or shelter himself should be any less entitled to priority hous-

ing than someone vulnerable through age or disablement." The London boroughs of Islington, Kensington and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham, and Westminster City Council, were given leave to appeal to the House of Lords against yesterday's judgment in a test case brought by applicants from Kenya, Ethiopia, Bulgaria and Zaire.

The judgment overturns a High Court ruling by Mr Justice Phipps which said that asylum seekers left destitute by the Government's benefits crackdown were not legally entitled to housing. Refugee charities said thousands of people would have been affected by such a decision.

Yesterday Mr Major defended the Government's move to cut benefits to asylum seekers, saying he believed the vast majority of the country supported its action.

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# Church conspiracy led to sex charges against theologian

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

A LEADING Scottish theologian was yesterday acquitted of five charges of sexual assault after a court ruled that he was the victim of a church conspiracy.

Professor Donald Macleod, 55, Professor of Systematic Theology at the Free Church College in Edinburgh, was hounded by powerful members of the Free Church of Scotland for more than ten years. They spread rumours and innuendo about his personal life and prevented him from preaching and publishing articles.

According to Sheriff John

Horsburgh, members of the strict religious denomination persecuted themselves in court and "broke the ninth commandment" in an effort to ensure Professor Macleod was convicted of five criminal charges that three church committees had failed to substantiate.

The Church, known informally as The Wee Frees, is particularly influential in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. It is one of the last strongholds of traditional puritanism and sabbatarianism.

Professor Macleod maintained at Edinburgh Sheriff

Court that the women who accused him were pawns of powerful members of the Church who hated his liberal views and his popularity with churchgoers. Chief among those was the Rev John J. Murray, minister of St Columba's Church in Edinburgh, who had waged a vendetta against him.

The first witness for the prosecution was Miss A, a 28-year-old university graduate and close relative of Professor Macleod. She said that on visiting his Edinburgh home ten years ago, he pressed her to him and kissed her passionately.

Sheriff Horsburgh said the woman had "a bias against and hostility towards Professor Macleod". She was both "defensive and contentious" when giving evidence. There were also inconsistencies in her evidence.

The second witness, Dr B, 35, a senior lecturer in statistics, said that the professor had sexually assaulted her on two occasions, once in his study in the Free Church College in Edinburgh and once in a parked car.

The Sheriff said he had found the woman to be a "powerful personality". He did not believe that she would have kept quiet during a sustained assault.

The three other women who made allegations against Professor Macleod were all members of the same Free Church in Edinburgh and were good friends of Mr Murray. They alleged the professor had tried to kiss them. All denied they were part of a conspiracy.

The charge relating to one of the women was dropped after she gave a different date for the assault from that on the charge sheet. The Sheriff said he felt there were discrepancies in the accounts given by both the other witnesses.

Going through evidence of attempts to discredit Professor Macleod by those inside the Free Church, including Mr Murray, Sheriff Horsburgh said he felt witnesses were right to regard Mr Murray as "a dangerous man".

Sheriff Horsburgh said: "From all the evidence, I have come to the conclusion there was a conspiracy. It involved a number of people inside and outside the Free Church. They may have had different reasons for their hostility towards [the professor], but the common objective was his downfall."

Afterwards Professor Macleod posed for pictures with his wife Mary and said he would not bring legal action against his accusers. "Life is too short. I want to get on with my life," he said.



Professor Macleod and his wife Mary after the trial

## Puritanical sect falls from grace

By Our Scotland Correspondent

ONLY in the Free Church of Scotland would Professor Donald Macleod be seen as a liberal. At 55 and standing 6ft tall, this smiling Calvinist with his booming West Highland voice and sober navy suits is most people's idea of a hell-fire-and-brimstone preacher.

But in the confines of the Free Church, which has changed little since its establishment in 1843, Professor Macleod is seen by some as a dangerous reformer whose desire to drag the Church into the 20th century may destroy it.

The professor, regarded as the Church's most brilliant mind, takes a relaxed view on a number of issues that the Free Church holds dear. He is not upset by women wearing trousers or attending church bareheaded. In court he said he did not hold with the Free Church article of faith which describes the Pope as "the man of sin". He thinks ministers should, on occasion, leave off their clerical collars and

should be allowed to conduct cremations. One church member said: "God may have given Moses the Ten Commandments, but he gave Free Church ministers a further 200."

The picture that emerged in Court 2 of Edinburgh's Sheriff Court of a number of powerful ministers willing to use subterfuge and slanderous gossip to bring down one of their most highly regarded preachers has made many in the Free Church squirm.

Professor Macleod's position in the Church is unclear. He has talked about joining the Church of Scotland. If he leaves the Free Church, up to half the Church could go with him. It has only 6,000 members and 19,000 regular attendants, many of them crofters eking a living from the harsh environment of the Western Isles. Already 2,000 supporters have signed a petition backing the professor and a fund to pay his legal fees has raised more than £20,000.

## Eight held in abuse inquiry

EIGHT people were being questioned yesterday over sex-abuse claims in an inquiry which began when a girl made allegations to a teacher.

Five men and a woman were detained when detectives and social workers executed search warrants at six homes in north Cornwall under the Protection of Children Act.

The men, aged 35 to 53, were arrested on suspicion of raping girls aged between 13 and 15. A sixth man, in his late twenties, was later arrested in north Cornwall on suspicion of similar offences and a seventh in Shropshire.

A 23-year-old woman was arrested for allegedly exposing a child to moral danger. Police said that hundreds of videos and a quantity of printed matter had been seized during the investigation.

Three children aged under four were subject to emergency protection orders and a care order had been made for a 14-year-old. A number of other children were expected to be interviewed.

## Stranded sailors died as mist fell

BASIC safety equipment could have saved three men who drowned after their boat was thrown against a sandbank, a fatal accident inquiry was told yesterday.

Gerald Bruce, 58, his son Iain, 26, and Alan Jones, 50, died as they tried to walk, in thick mist, the 500 yards from their smashed and beached boat in the River Tay estuary to the shore. They and the sole survivor, Jim Miller, 45, became disorientated when the mist descended.

The amateur sailors, who were taking the newly purchased 28ft vessel from Newburgh, Fife, to their home town of Arbroath, Tayside, had no radio, lifejackets or distress flares.

Mr Miller said: "We made a joint decision to cut the corner at Gaa Sands. We saw the marker bouys but we thought they were only for big boats. We got stuck on a sandbank. Then this wave came along, lifted the boat up and dropped it. It just cracked. We jumped overboard and decided to walk to the shore. When we

went into the water it was only up to our knees and it was a fine, sunny day. But then the mist came in and we just lost all direction."

"We had one lifer and we tied three plastic drums to our belts. We thought the tide would take us in but it just took us round in circles. I didn't think the water was that cold at first, but it was cold after you had been in it for a while."

"Gerry died first. He had a heart problem and was nervous from the start. When he died we did not want Iain, his son, to see him, so I made sure he was facing the other way. Then Iain died."

"I managed to get one leg out of the water, that's how I was found by the lifeboat." John Hughes, the lifeboat coxman, said that he would expect anyone planning to make the journey to have a radio, lifejackets and preferably a liferaft. He added that a compass and navigational charts would be essential.

Sheriff Norrie Stein said that basic safety measures would have saved the men.

## Father, 14, spared detention

By Lin Jenkins

A COURT yesterday decided not to impose a custodial sentence on a 14-year-old boy for a string of car crimes to give "him the chance to bring up his baby daughter. The boy was given a conditional discharge for 37 offences committed before the child was born.

The youth court at Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, had deferred sentence from January to see if the teenager,

who admitted the offences, could keep out of trouble.

John Kirkpatrick, for the boy, said: "He has not offended since his last court appearance. He is training at a garage and acting as a father to his child with his partner."

The teenager stole ten cars between August and October last year, abandoning them in fenland villages. Phillip Loakes, chairman of the youth court panel, said: "This

was obviously a stupid and very annoying spree for a lot of people. It affected a lot of people's lives."

"We are pleased to see that you have done something about your lifestyle. We know you have a young daughter and we hope you bring her up in a proper environment which will be free of crime."

The charges included taking a vehicle without permission and driving without a licence and insurance.



Survivors of the big purge at IMG Models: from left, Lisa Butcher, aged 24, Tyra Banks, 23, and the veteran Lauren Hutton, 52

By Carol Mingley

THE most vital statistic for some models yesterday was their age. Sixty who are beyond the ripe old age of 25 have been told their services are no longer required by a major agency seeking to freshen its image.

IMG Models has decided to clear its books of many of its "older, sophisticated, more commercial girls" in an attempt to move upmarket towards the trend for younger, more "homespun" girls. But the decision raised some eyebrows yesterday in an industry whose biggest names include Christy Turlington, 26, Cindy Crawford, 30, Jerry Hall, 39, and Isabella

## Youth before beauty for the models 'too old at 25'

Rosellini, who is pushing 45. Lisa Butcher, who is with IMG, remains safe at 24 however and Tyra Banks, another of its models, is 23. Lauren Hutton, who became a Revlon girl for the second time at 50, is now 52 — more than twice as old as her employers' guideline.

The move comes weeks after model scouts were criticised for approaching girls as young as 12. Only a few months ago Laraine Ashton,

the agency's former managing director, resigned after enraging women's magazines by accusing them of exploiting young models in semi-pornographic shots.

The latest decision was seen by some industry insiders as a desperate attempt to win back favour with the publications which are understood to have reduced the number of IMG models. The agency defended its decision claiming it wanted to make itself more high-

profile. Its director, Soraya Burton, was reported as saying: "Our problem was that we had some older, sophisticated, more commercial girls who no longer fitted our image. We are now looking for young, homespun talent. It is mainly the ones who were 25-plus who have gone. We want to concentrate on the higher end of the market."

Other agencies said it was nonsense to have age limits. A spokeswoman for Storm

whose books include Elle Macpherson, 29, and Carla Bruni, 26, said: "We start girls quite young but we keep them with us for a long time. Everything depends on how someone looks. I don't think there is a particular trend for younger models."

Carole White, managing director of the Elite modelling agency which has Linda Evangelista, 31, on its books, said IMG's move seemed "very hard". She added: "All modelling agencies are governed by what their clients want. In general they want girls from 18 to 25, but there is a huge demand for older girls which we do not particularly specialise in. But we have beautiful older girls with us."





# Overworked doctors desert the inner cities

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

MEDICAL care in the inner cities is threatened because of the exodus of doctors from the NHS, the British Medical Association said yesterday.

Doctors are turning their backs on general practice because of flagging morale, overwork and unsocial hours, and hospitals cannot recruit consultants in some specialties such as anaesthetics.

The annual conference of the association called yesterday for national action to deal with the growing recruitment crisis. One in six medical students is dropping out before they qualify and half of vocational training schemes for GPs are undersubscribed. Some estimates suggest that up to 25 per cent of doctors are not working in the NHS three years after qualifying.

At the other end of the age scale, more GPs are retiring early, with a 25 per cent drop in the number working beyond 60 in the past six years. In east London, a recruitment fair to fill 140 GP vacancies had failed to secure a single

doctor, the conference was told.

Dr Ian Bogle, chairman of the BMA's GP committee, said: "With doctors not wishing to come into practice and others bailing out, we are facing a disaster. There is a potential breakdown of general practice in the inner cities."

A BMA committee set up last year to examine the manpower crisis has been unable to obtain accurate figures on the workforce because they are no longer held centrally. Dr Ian Banks, a member of the committee, said that the figures that were available painted a frightening picture.

The apparent rise in the number of GPs — 4.9 per cent from 1990 to 1994 — disguised the fact that more were working part-time. This is partly

accounted for by the rising number of women, who make up a third of the profession.

Dr Banks said: "Something is going very badly wrong. We are losing doctors at the older ages because of early retirement and at the younger ages because of a failure to recruit. Not only is there not enough water coming into the bucket, but it has a hole in it as well."

Dr Banks said GPs were caught in a vicious circle as their colleagues departed and their workload increased. The conference in Brighton was told how the recruitment problem extended to hospitals. Joy Edelman, a consultant in Ilford, east London, said: "A few years ago it was a rarity to find any doctor retiring before 65. Now it is most unusual to find

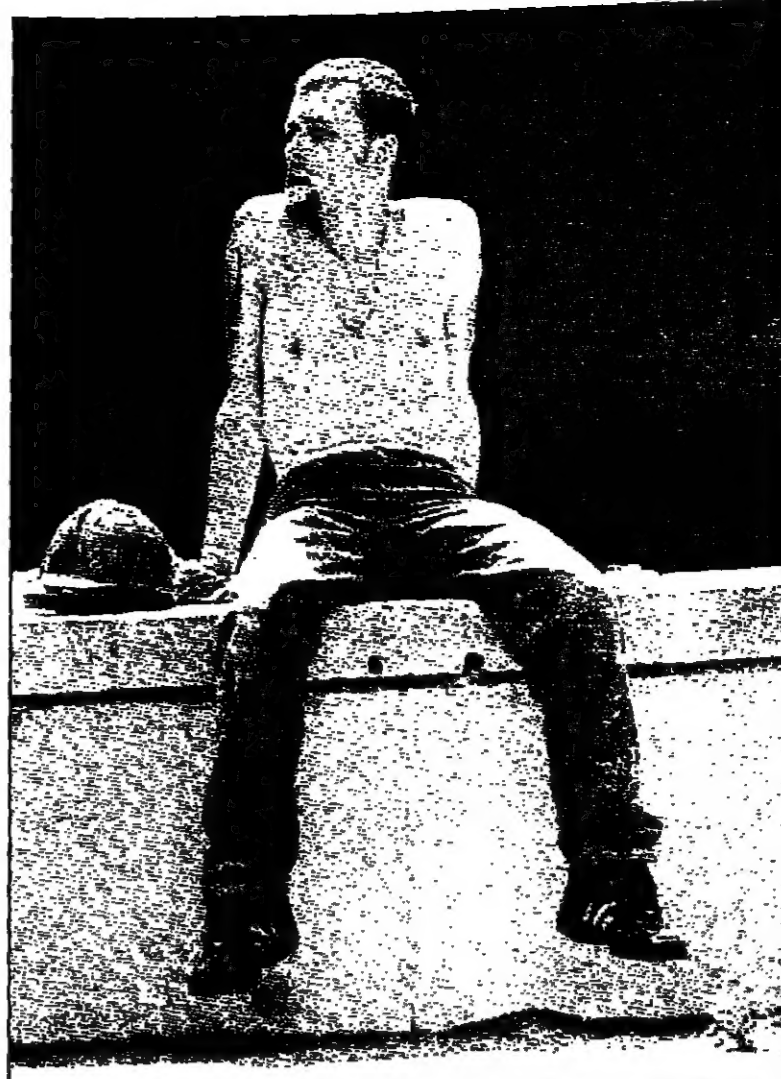
any that are going on to that age. 'I don't need the hassle' is the usual comment."

Dr David MacDonald Burns, 59, a consultant at the Royal Free Hospital in north London, who expects to retire next year, said: "The reason we want out now is because we do not feel valued. The NHS does not value continuity of experience and that is what the patients need. NHS trusts want someone cheap and quick."

Dr Michael Oliver, a GP in Crewe, said that ten years ago his practice had 150 applicants for a partner's post but last year it had attracted only 12 for a similar job. "It is the worst crisis we have faced for 30 years," he said.

The Health Department said: "We don't see there is a crisis, although there are some pockets of difficulty. GP numbers continue to rise and there are sufficient to fill the vacancies."

A stress counselling helpline for doctors has taken 800 calls in its first ten weeks. One in four callers to the helpline, launched by the BMA in April, said they were unable to cope with their work.



A construction worker taking a break in the London sun yesterday. Temperatures in the capital reached 26C. Forecast, page 26

## Britons ignore cancer danger in quest for 'healthy' tan

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ACRES of bare brown skin featured in television advertisements and holiday brochures are conveying a dangerous message, psychologists said yesterday. Images such as *Baywatch* and the Diet Coke advertisement, showing a bricklayer stripped to the waist, reinforced the idea that a tan was healthy. But sunbathers were increasing their risk of skin cancer, including the most dangerous form, melanoma, which has doubled since 1980.

Professor Richard Eisner of Exeter University and his wife Dr Christine Eisner, director of the Cancer Research Campaign's child and family research group, visited beaches in Devon, Italy and the Canary Islands to interview holidaymakers.

They found that while the British were generally better informed about the risks of skin cancer, they were careless about protecting themselves against it. Many saw "lying on a beach sunbathing and swimming" as an ideal holiday and believed they were not personally at risk "if they kept dolloping on sun-cream".

Male outdoor workers were particularly at risk. Dr Christine Eisner told a press conference in London. Women claimed to be more prepared to protect themselves, especially with sunscreen, but at the same time appeared to enjoy sunbathing more and set a higher value on getting a tan.

Educating people about the risks was a "real problem", Dr Eisner said. The only answer was to cover up.

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## MEDICAL BRIEFING

### Priceless results of mother care

FOR nearly 60 years pregnant women have wondered why they must visit their doctor or walking so often. The reason why the doctor takes blood, feels their abdomen to find out which way the baby is lying, counts the heart rate and from time to time orders an ultrasound is usually obvious. Why doctors display greater interest in blood pressure, looseness of rings, the tightness of shoes and the state of the urine is usually a mystery, even doctors do not fully understand changes in the placenta that lead to pre-eclampsia, and even an eclamptic fit during pregnancy, but they have learnt to dread them.

At every antenatal visit, the doctors and midwives are looking for pre-eclampsia, the rise in blood pressure, increase in the swelling in the fingers and feet and the presence of albumin in the urine, which might give the first warning. In the past an eclamptic fit nearly always meant the death of the unborn baby, and sometimes the mother died too, whether from inhalation of vomit, a stroke, kidney failure or liver

complications. With assiduous care, eclamptic fits are now rare but they still kill a thousand babies and seven mothers a year.

Improvement is the result of safety drills and admission to hospital for any mother showing potential signs of serious trouble. In the past eclampsia was comparatively common. In 1959, *British Obstetric Practice* gave the incidence of as one in 600 births, and the authors felt this represented a huge advance. The ritual antenatal tests are expensive in terms of lives saved, possibly a factor in today's accountability-legal medicine, but the horror of even one unnecessary death from eclampsia, and the sadness produced by stillbirths that could have been averted, cannot be fed into any credit and debit account.

Professor Christopher Redman of Oxford University has denounced any move to reduce antenatal care. Those who remember eclamptic fits in the past will support him.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

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## Young school children should wait to school

By JONATHAN HAYES  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE sharp drop in the number of children walking to school in the last generation has led to a dependence on cars.

George Young, Secretary of the Road Safety Foundation, said: "The proportion of school children who walk to school has fallen from 50 per cent in 1970 to 10 per cent in 1994. This is a sad state of affairs. It is not safe for children to walk to school as they have to cross roads before they are old enough to do so."

Cutting the number of school runs by half would mean that 15 million children would be walking to school. This would be a massive improvement in road safety.

Sir George said that the road safety foundation was a charity which promotes road safety and from 1997 will be part of the Department of Transport.

By encouraging children to walk, cycle and use public transport to get to school, the government is a greater benefit to the nation than the cost of the transport in later years. He recognised that parents were worried about pollution and obesity and said new initiatives to encourage children to walk, cycle and use public transport would be a great benefit to the nation.

## Camera

AN UNDERWATER camera lost in the murky depths around a wreck off the Norfolk coast spent seven months at sea, travelled 500 miles and emerged in working order. It was found by a fisherman, Mr Jenkins, who was fishing for sea bream from the beachcomber from the Norfolk Islands. He found it in February on the uninhabited island of Havensay.

"I saw the camera among the flowers and so I kicked it thinking it was just a piece of plastic."



# Thieves take couple's memento of SAS son

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE ailing mother of an SAS soldier killed in action yesterday for burglars to steal her last memento of her son. The diamond, silver and enamel brooch in the shape of the SAS winged dagger cap badge was made for Elizabeth Garthwaite after her son Simon, a captain in the elite regiment, was killed in action in Oman in 1974.

It was among antique silverware and jewellery valued at £100,000 stolen from the home of Mrs. Garthwaite, 78, and her husband, Peter, 80, at the weekend. The elderly couple, who need sticks to walk, were attacked and tied up by three masked men who spent an hour ransacking the house.

Police said that if Mrs. Garthwaite had not struggled free and helped her husband to raise the alarm, they might not have been discovered until today, when the vicar was due to call.

In spite of their trauma, the couple appeared at a press conference yesterday to publicise the incident in the hope of catching the burglars. Mrs. Garthwaite, a former



Captain Garthwaite: died in action in Oman

percy officer in the Wrens who suffers from Parkinson's disease and is recovering from a broken hip, said: "I just want the things back, especially the brooch. My husband had it made specially in memory of my son."

Colleagues of their son said he should have been recommended for a posthumous VC for his attempt to rescue a wounded Arab soldier during a gun battle with rebels in the Mirbat desert region, but there were not enough witnesses to corroborate the report. Known to the soldiers of

the Omani Sultan as "The Noble One", Captain Garthwaite was regarded with almost mystical reverence by the Arab troops, who were prepared to follow his orders without question. A passage in the unofficial history of the SAS, *Who Dares Wins*, describes how Captain Garthwaite was uncomfortable at formal Army events but was at his best out in the desert with just his fatigues and weapon.

His father, a former lieutenant-colonel with the Royal Indian Engineers who fought the Japanese in Burma in the Second World War, said he had nothing but contempt for the men who attacked them at about 9pm on Saturday as they watched television at their home near Ampleforth, North Yorkshire.

"I suddenly saw this man in a mask and a boiler suit with gloves standing at the drawing-room door. I was surprised but not frightened. We both remained calm and just waited for them to get on with what they wanted to do. We are Yorkshire-born and bred, which counts for something, and we have a strong Chris-

tian faith which sustains us."

Police believe one of the raiders had entered through a window and let the others in through a back door. They handcuffed Mr. Garthwaite and took away their sticks before two of the intruders searched the house.

Mr. Garthwaite, who suffered a stroke some years ago, said: "Every drawer, every cupboard was turned out on the floor, our bedroom was ransacked and all of the papers in my study were strewn everywhere. They searched my wife to see if she was wearing any jewellery. They took the watch off her wrist but decided not to take her rings. They did not assault us but one of them was pretty foul-mouthed. They just told us 'Keep quiet and nothing will happen to you'."

Before the thieves fled, they used a leather strap to tie Mrs. Garthwaite's hands but she struggled free and managed to cross the room to retrieve their walking sticks. "We got to the window and my husband shouted for help," she said. "The farmer next door was checking his sheep. When they started bleating he looked to see what was wrong."



Peter and Elizabeth Garthwaite: attacked at home

## Action in Oman was regiment's finest hour

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE area where Captain Garthwaite died was the location of one of the most legendary SAS actions. The small town of Mirbat, flanked on two sides by the sea, was home for the so-called British Army training team of ten SAS soldiers.

On July 18, 1972, more than 250 Marxist guerrillas of the Dhofar Liberation Front launched an attack as part of their war against the Sultan of Oman and his British advisers. Facing them were the SAS men, 30 lightly armed Askaris from northern Oman, and 25 men from the gendarmerie. They held the town until reinforcements arrived.

During the fierce battle, two SAS men were killed and two seriously injured. The guerrillas retreated, losing at least 30 dead. The battle demonstrated to the counter-guerrillas that SAS men were prepared to die for them. On April 12, 1974, Captain Garthwaite was killed trying to rescue a man pinned down by enemy fire in the Mirbat desert region.

SATURDAY  
IN THE TIMES



DEAD POET'S SOCIETY

Lynne Truss on the Tennyson set and the long, hot summer of 1864, in the Magazine

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THE SEVEN-SECTION TIMES IS 40p ON SATURDAY

## Young says children should walk to school

By JONATHAN PRYNN  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE sharp decline in the number of pupils cycling and walking to school is creating a generation of unfit and car-dependent children. Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, said yesterday.

The proportion of junior school children who travelled to classes unsupervised had fallen from 80 per cent to 10 per cent in 20 years. Parents had to be persuaded that it was safe to let their children make their own way to school, as they had done 20 years before, Sir George told a conference in London.

Cutting the number of school runs by parents in the morning was one of the Government's transport priorities, he said. The journeys accounted for 15 to 20 per cent of morning rush-hour traffic.

Sir George said that children who were always driven to and from school suffered a loss of independence, had less opportunity to develop road sense and had less exercise. "By encouraging children to walk, cycle and use public transport to get around there is a greater likelihood of these modes being accepted as normal and desirable forms of transport in later life," he said.

He recognised that parents were worried about accidents, pollution and abduction, and said new initiatives must not alienate them. A survey of 10,000 pupils found that up to 40 per cent wanted to cycle to school but less than 10 per cent were allowed to by their parents.

## Japanese eat meat from rare blue whale

By NICK NUTTALL  
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

MEAT from the world's biggest and most endangered animal, the blue whale, is on sale in Japanese supermarkets, scientists said yesterday.

Undercover researchers using genetic fingerprinting said they had unearthed a massive illegal trade in rare and endangered whale species. They were being killed in defiance of international agreements and sold to shops and restaurants in the Far East.

The researchers, backed by the International Fund for Animal Welfare, the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society and Earthtrust, found that almost every species of whale, including humpback, fin, Bryde's, Baird's and Cuvier's, are available, along with at least seven species of dolphin and porpoise.

DNA tests from two samples indicated they were from a blue whale, a protected species whose numbers are now fewer than 5,000 animals.

The findings, by researchers including Dr Scott Baker of the University of Auckland, and Dr Frank Cipriano of the University of Hawaii, were presented at the International Whaling Commission meeting in Aberdeen yesterday. They will intensify opposition to whaling by Japan and Norway, who claim they are catching only the small minke whales. Norway has exempted itself from the worldwide whaling moratorium and Japan continues to carry out so-called scientific whaling.

## Camera's long-shot

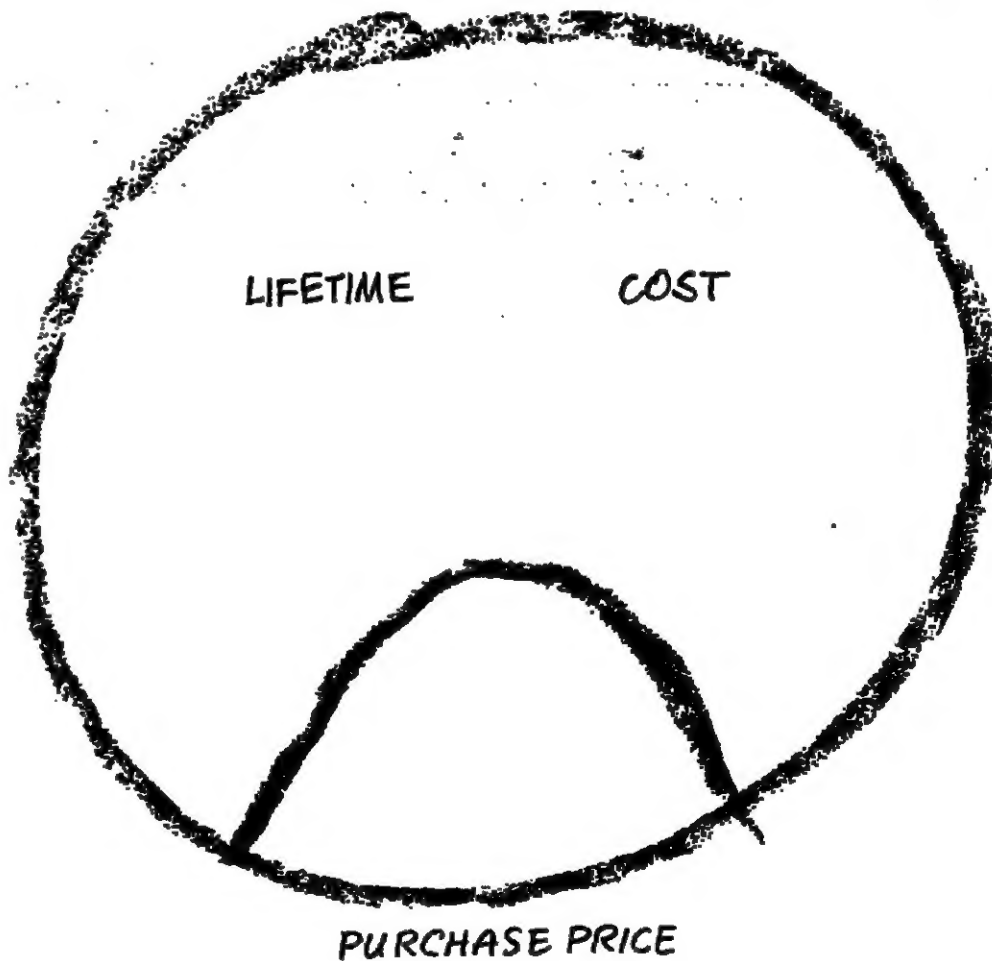
AN UNDERWATER camera lost in the murky depths around a wreck off the Norfolk coast spent seven months at sea, travelled 500 miles and emerged in working order (Lin Jenkins writes).

Marshall Smith, an avid beachcomber from the Shetland Islands, found it in February on the uninhabited island of Hascosey.

"I saw the corner of it among the flotsam and jetsam, so I kicked it thinking it was just a piece of plastic. It

was covered in seaweed and nearly green," he said. As he fiddled with the camera it took a picture. He took the film to be developed and a friend put details on the Internet.

Two days ago Mr Smith got a call from Tony Thrower in Norwich after he read about the find in *The Diver*, a magazine for enthusiasts. He lost the Japanese-made Sea and Sea Motor Marine camera last July while diving nine miles off Mundesley.



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## Hi-tech cheats use supermarket cards to fake credit sales

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Correspondent

FRAUDSTERS are gaining unexpected bargains from the new supermarket loyalty cards, police said yesterday. They are being reprogrammed with stolen details of bank accounts for use as fake "swipe cards" at petrol stations and phone boxes, where PIN numbers are not required.

Millions of the new cards are being offered to shoppers in the competition between supermarkets. In the past week, two million Sainsbury's customers have been given the new Reward cards. Tesco has more than 6.5 million holders.

The fraud involves the use of £700 card-encoding machines. The method is widely available through the Internet and police admit that they are powerless to stop information being circulated in this way. Computer-literate teenagers are believed to be involved.

The encoding machines alter the black magnetic strip on the back of the card and insert

a genuine account number and expiry date bought on the black market. Account details could be gathered from a purchase receipt or from a crooked retailer.

The fake cannot be used in a shop, but it can be used for automatic machines which accept credit cards. They could also be accepted by crooked retailers claiming they thought the cards were genuine.

If the forgers manage to get access to a PIN number, they can use cash points to take money from victims' accounts. The encoding machines are also being used by fraudsters to change the numbers on their own credit cards so that transactions are credited to someone else's account.

Losses to banks and other credit card companies from all forms of counterfeit cards are put at more than £7 million a year. Detective Sergeant Peter Rowan, of the West Midlands Police fraud squad, said:

"Last month alone credit card purchases in the UK topped £4 billion, so the potential for plastic card fraud is huge."

An account number and expiry date for a credit card could be bought on the black market for about £20. More sensitive information, including addresses and dates of birth, could fetch £1,000.

A spokesman for Sainsbury's said many types of cards could be altered and abuse of the loyalty cards was not regarded as a great threat. Tesco said it would introduce a system to detect when details on a magnetic strip differed from the card's appearance.

The Association for Payment Clearing Services, which represents card-issuing companies, said that by 1998 a new microchip will end the risk of counterfeiters.

Losses from cards are running at £80 million a year, of which £60 million comes from card thefts rather than counterfeiting and other abuses.

## Puppies 'raised on filthy battery farms'

By Tim Jones

NEW laws are needed to stop the "evil trade" at unlicensed puppy farms, animal welfare groups said yesterday. Bitches are kept in appalling conditions and forced to breed as though they were battery machines, they said.

Some estimates suggest that as many as 70,000 puppies a year are raised unlawfully and kept in damp, cold, cramped and excrement-covered pens before being sold at a huge profit. A single litter can fetch £3,000 or more. Snatched from their mothers when less than six weeks old, puppies often develop behavioural problems and carry diseases and genetic deformities from bitches forced to breed endlessly.

Some of the puppies are transported in small containers over long distances and may end in small cages in the Far East with false Kennel Club accreditation, a report published yesterday says.



A boxer bitch kept in cramped and miserable conditions on a puppy farm and made to breed litter after litter

Roger Gale, MP, who chaired the puppy-farming working group, said: "Quite simply, some of the conditions on these unlicensed farms are inhumane and this is a vile and evil trade which must be stopped."

"I suspect people would be horrified if they knew the exploitation and cruelty behind their purchase." The report, which is being sent to

ministers, suggests that in west Wales alone there are at least 290 illegal kennels, more than half the total. The area has become notorious for unlicensed breeding, partly because dairy farmers needed to diversify after quotas limited their milk production.

An RSPCA video shows two puppy farms in Wales in a filthy and ramshackle condition. At one farm, puppies

were found huddled in the dark on a floor covered with compacted excrement. Rohan Barker of the RSPCA said: "It resembled a black hole of Calcutta."

One of the main changes to the law being sought is to give breeders their yearly licence only after premises have been inspected by a vet, rather than by planning officers. A breeding establish-

ment should be defined as premises where more than two bitches are kept for breeding, the report says. Many breeders keep a large number of bitches but avoid the need to be licensed by claiming that only two are for breeding.

Clarissa Baldwin of the National Canine Defence League said: "This is no way to treat the nation's favourite pet."

## "THRILLINGLY DRAMATIC ...A GREAT PICTURE"

DAILY TELEGRAPH

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AT CINEMAS EVERYWHERE JULY 19

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Six held over death of tourist

Police hunting the killers of a German tourist who was shot dead in a hotel robbery arrested six people in a series of raids yesterday. Johanna Czardobon, 56, was shot as she sat drinking coffee with her husband in a Bedford hotel last month.

Police said officers executed search warrants at a number of addresses in the Bedford area. A spokesman said: "The purpose of the warrants is to arrest people involved in a series of robberies in the Bedford area in the past few months and to search and recover property from those robberies." The raids involved 94 officers.

#### Gang victim dies

A Northern Irish tennis international who was attacked by a gang outside a pub has died in hospital. Gareth Parker, 23, was hit by a passing car as he lay in the road after the attack in Belfast at the weekend. He had severe head injuries.

#### Workers cleared

Two decorators accused of blackmailing a woman over an unpaid bill were cleared by an Old Bailey jury. Carlton Gayle, 33, of Clapton, east London, and Duncan Murphy, 32, of Tottenham, were said to have held a gun to her head.

#### L-strike off

Driving examiners' strikes due tomorrow and Friday have been called off after a deal over pay and conditions. Thousands of learners who faced postponed tests will now avoid the written section which starts on Monday.

#### Charlton fined

Jack Charlton was fined £30 by Hexham magistrates after being caught fishing without a licence near his home in Dalton, Northumberland. The former football manager has appeared in advertisements promoting licences.

#### Chester moves on

Charlie Chester, the 82-year-old broadcaster who is unable to walk or speak after a stroke seven months ago, has left hospital in Canterbury for a Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund home in Twickenham, southwest London.

#### Big-game hunt

A police helicopter with heat-seeking equipment is to comb the Oxfordshire countryside after a man said he saw a big cat resembling a lioness while out walking near Berrick Salome. A nearby farm has reported lost lambs.

#### Long-term jobless advised to start own businesses

By Dominic Kenney, Social Affairs Correspondent

THE long-term unemployed should work for themselves instead of job hunting if they want to escape the dole queue, according to a report published today. Self-employment is more secure than full-time or part-time employment for people who have been out of work for more than six months.

The number of self-employed has grown faster in Britain than in any other European country since the mid-1970s, soaring by 80 per cent in two decades to 14 per cent of the workforce.

At the same time, the proportion of people moving directly from unemployment to self-employment has more than doubled, the report shows. Forty per cent of self-employed workers were previously unemployed.

"Our findings cast doubt on the assertion that self-employment is a marginal, insecure form of work, at least among those entering it from long-term unemployment," says the independent Policy Studies Institute, which studied 2,200 people for 30 months.

It was often the marketable unemployed, with better work histories and qualifications, who became self-employed, particularly in a buoyant labour market, the report shows. Men were likely to have good work records and women to be qualified.

A degree proved a liability to the self-employed. Graduates earned 44 per cent less than the unqualified. The only qualifications which added to incomes were those below O-level standard.

The most valuable possession was a driving licence, although a wife was also helpful as a source of free labour, and a house for financial security.

Men were attracted to self-employment by hopes of higher wages but did not earn any more than people in full-time employment. The self-employed earned more than part-timers but self-employed women earned less than full-timers.

The Department of Social Security, which commissioned the report, said it would continue to encourage people into self-employment using the benefit system.

From Unemployment to Self-employment (RSC Distribution Ltd, PO Box 1496, Poole, Dorset BH12 3YD; £9.95)

## Term unveiled of Ho

ONE hundred and... days after it started... inquiry into the... fifth terminal at... airport learns... yesterday what it... it look like.

The Richard... of the Richard... ship, unveiled... drawings and... created images... unlike a railway... admitted... glass domes... from Grand... New York to... influenced the... Mr Young... "One of my... has been to... temporary... 10th-century... which added a... to travel by a... of light and... His evidence... an almost... Ramada Hotel... the 102nd day... light of an... certain to drag... of new year... the longest... contentious... Britain.

It has also... the millions of... the west of London.

## High-rise design overlook Windsor

By Marcus Binney

PASSENGERS at... Terminal Five at... Heathrow's runway... find themselves with... stand view of Windsor... The proposed... course is 30 metres... ground level, higher... existing British... Far from commu... of less-majestic... views from the... architect John... improve them. He... bulk of the terminal... shielded by a series... antly planned... stepped up in tier... departure level.

The architects... sought to soften the... design, which rises to... of 40 metres and... 400 by 250 metres... form roof oversails... walls in all directions... sweeping canopy... departure dropped... shown projecting a... 25 metres beyond the... without column support.

The design also... freestanding satellites... by underground "people... ers" and an 85-metre... tower that would be... London landmark in... Mr Young says: "From... moment a traveller leaves

Canberra went to w... By Michael Evans, D... THE SS Canberra... which, with the QE2... thousands of British... the Falklands in 1982... her sailing days next... Canberra's demise... cruise ship was announced... P&O Cruises. After 36 years... service, the 44,800-tonne ship... may be turned into a... hotel or visitor centre... scrapped. Built at a cost of... million, Canberra was the... largest postwar British... launch and became known... affectionately as the Great... White Whale.

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By Michael Evans, D

THE SS Canberra... which, with the QE2... thousands of British... the Falklands in 1982... her sailing days next... Canberra's demise... cruise ship was announced... P&O Cruises. After 36 years... service, the 44,800-tonne ship... may be turned into a... hotel or visitor centre... scrapped. Built at a cost of... million, Canberra was the... largest postwar British... launch and became known... affectionately as the Great... White Whale.

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# Terminal Five plans unveiled on day 162 of Heathrow inquiry

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

ONE hundred and sixty-one days after it started, the public inquiry into the building of a fifth terminal at Heathrow airport learnt for the first time yesterday what it could actually look like.

The architect John Young, of the Richard Rogers Partnership, unveiled a portfolio of drawings and computer-generated images that looked not unlike a railway station. He admitted that the soaring glass domes of stations ranging from Grand Central in New York to Brighton had all influenced the plans.

Mr Young told the inquiry: "One of my guiding principles has been to design a contemporary equivalent of the great 19th-century railway stations which added a heroic element to travel by a breathtaking use of light and space."

His evidence, presented to an almost empty hall in the Ramada Hotel at the start of the 162nd day, was the highlight of an inquiry that seems certain to drag on until the end of next year. It is likely to be the longest, costliest and most contentious ever held in Britain.

It has also sharply divided the millions of people living to the west of London. Airlines,

the airport owner BAA, and millions of international business passengers say that the £1 billion terminal, which will double Heathrow's capacity, is essential if Britain is to remain the hub for travellers from around the world heading into Europe. Without it, they say, London's position as a centre of finance and commerce will dwindle and major airlines such as British Airways could be forced out, leaving Heathrow to become no more than a regional airport feeding passengers to a centre on the Continent.

Rubbish, say local authorities and protest groups. They believe the terminal will create intolerable noise, overcrowded roads but no more jobs, and would destroy the environment while giving nothing to Britain.

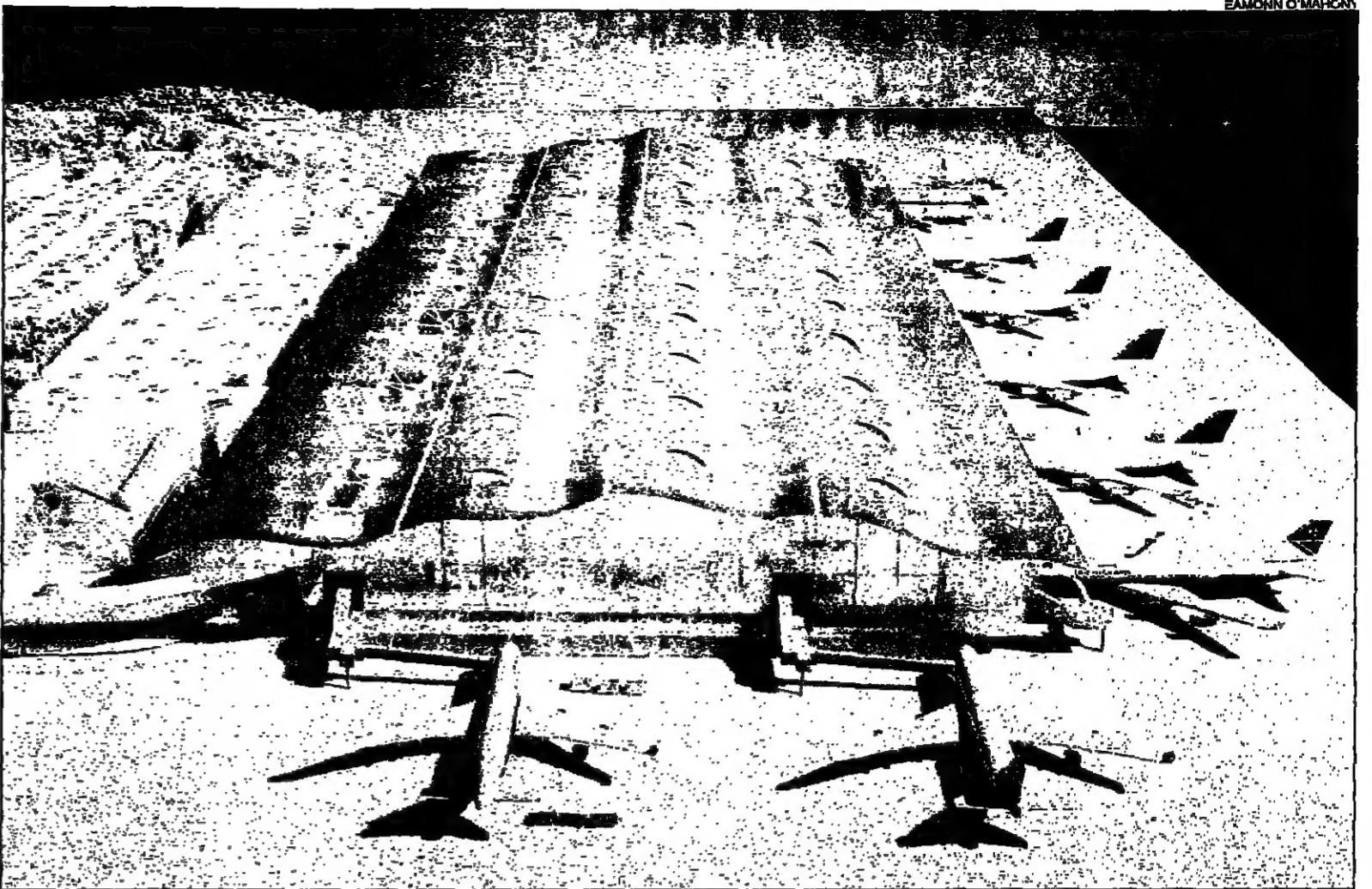
Listening to the arguments alongside Heathrow's main runway is Roy Vandermere, QC. So far the inquiry has stretched over the past 13 months and he predicts that it will be another 18 months at least before the last of the hundreds of witnesses have been heard. He will take another year to produce his report and the Government will take another six months at

least to decide whether it agrees with him or not.

The likelihood is that even if all goes according to plan — the inquiry has slipped at least a year behind the original estimate — it will be close to the turn of the century before BAA knows whether it can proceed.

By the time the fifth terminal is fully operational, about 2016, BAA hopes that at least half the 80 million passengers who will then be using the airport will arrive by rail. The Terminal Five platform will be alongside the check-in area.

In the meantime, an average of 12 expensive lawyers, together with a handful of witnesses and local people, sit and listen to the arguments. They are now on topic three, the detailed plans. There are ten topics and up to 2,500 possible witnesses. The best estimates are that the inquiry will have cost well over £10 million by the time it ends.



The new terminal, which will double Heathrow's capacity, was designed as "a contemporary equivalent of the great 19th-century railway stations"

## High-rise design overlooks Windsor

By MARCUS BINNEY

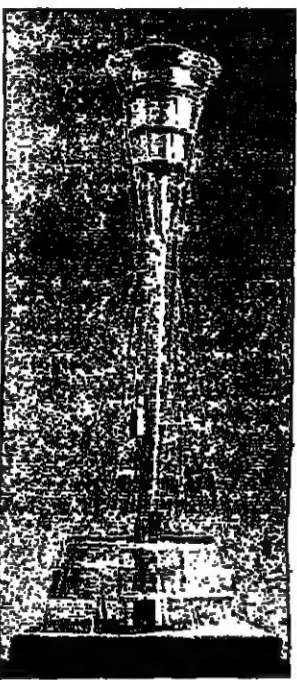
PASSENGERS at the new Terminal Five at the west end of Heathrow's runway could find themselves with a grandstand view of Windsor Castle. The proposed departure concourse is 20 metres above ground level, higher than any existing British terminal.

Far from committing an act of *lese-majesté* by blighting views from the castle, the architect John Young may improve them. He says the bulk of the terminal would be shielded by a series of luxuriantly planted car parks stepped up in tiers towards the departure level.

The architects have also sought to soften the bulk of the design, which rises to a height of 40 metres and measures 400 by 250 metres. A wave-form roof oversails the glass walls in all directions. The sweeping canopy over the departure drop-off point is shown projecting a staggering 25 metres beyond the building without column supports.

The design also shows two freestanding satellites linked by underground "people movers" and an 85-metre control tower that would be a new London landmark in itself.

Mr Young says: "From the moment a traveller leaves the



The control tower: 85 metres high

M25, the roof of the terminal will be visible, floating above a plateau of landscaping."

The roof would be likely to have a silver grey or pewter finish, with four wide bands of continuous rooflights bringing daylight to all parts of the interior.

Passengers arriving by public transport would make a stately ascent up banks of open escalators which have been a feature of other Rogers buildings — notably the Pompidou Centre in Paris and the Lloyd's building in London — with views across the largest internal atrium that the Richard Rogers Partnership has yet designed.

## Canberra, liner that went to war, retires

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE SS *Canberra* cruise liner which, with the *QE2*, ferried thousands of British troops to the Falklands in 1982, is to end her sailing days next year.

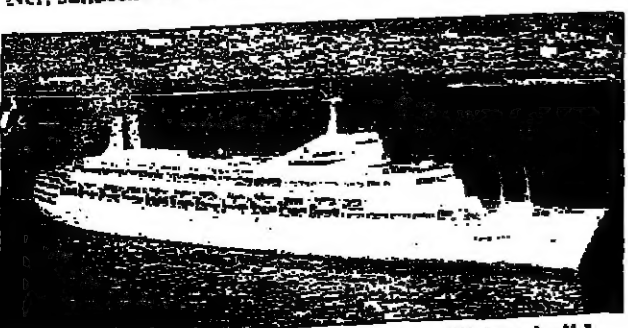
*Canberra's* demise as a cruise ship was announced by P&O Cruises. After 36 years' service, the 44,807-tonne ship may be turned into a floating hotel or visitor centre, or scrapped. Built at a cost of £17 million, *Canberra* was the largest postwar British passenger ship at the time of her launch and became known affectionately as the Great White Whale.

The image of the cruise ship was transformed when the Government made the dramatic decision to requisition *Canberra* as a troop-carrying vessel for the Falklands and later as a hospital ship during the fighting. Less than a week after cruising in the Mediterranean she was off to war, with swimming pools boarded over, sunbeds crumpled with

boxes of ammunition, and two helicopter pads installed.

*Canberra* left for the South Atlantic on Good Friday, April 9, 1982, packed with more than 3,000 marines and paratroopers and the Band of Commando Forces, Royal Marines, to entertain the troops. When she sailed home to Southampton in July 1982, filled once again with troops, she was greeted by thousands of people waving flags and cheering in one of the most emotional scenes ever witnessed.

P&O Cruises said *Canberra* would end her career on September 30 next year after a final round-the-world voyage between January and April and a Mediterranean cruise in September. She has sailed more than three million miles and carried nearly a million cruise passengers. *Canberra* will be replaced by the 63,500-tonne *Star Princess*, to be renamed *Aroclia*.



The "Great White Whale" cost £17 million to build

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# Shepherd to make every school consider selection

By JOHN O'LEARY  
AND DAVID CHARTER

ALL comprehensive schools will be required to consider the introduction of selective admission policies annually as part of the Government's drive to increase choice in state education.

A new breed of specialist schools, concentrating on sport and the arts, will also be encouraged to help parents to find a school to suit their children's talents.

Gillian Shepherd, the Education Secretary, told MPs that legislation to be introduced in the autumn would clear the way for more selective schools and give comprehensive freedom to establish grammar streams without local authority or ministerial approval.

Under plans published in a White Paper yesterday, Grant-maintained schools will be able to select 50 per cent of their pupils, specialist colleges 30 per cent, and local authority comprehensives 20 per cent. Governors of secondary schools will be required to make an annual decision on whether to introduce selection.

But Mrs Shepherd said there would be no return to a two-tier system of grammar schools and secondary moderns. Comprehensive schools would be encouraged to play to their strengths and specialise in a variety of areas. Sports and arts colleges, which would cover the performing arts, the fine arts, media, and technology, would run on the same lines as the language and technology schools already established by the Government.

The White Paper also contains proposals to increase opting out. Grant-maintained schools will be allowed to expand by up to 50 per cent if they are over-subscribed, although additional funding will be available only in areas of rising population.

In such areas, the Funding Agency for Schools will be empowered to establish new GM (grant-maintained) schools even if few others have opted out. At present, the agency can make proposals on school admissions only when

- THE MAIN POINTS**
- Grant-maintained schools will be free to select half their pupils
  - Local authority schools will be able to select one in five pupils
  - Up to 75 schools are to specialise in sport or the arts next year
  - All comprehensives must consider selection annually
  - Popular grant-maintained schools will be allowed to expand rolls by 50 per cent
  - The Funding Agency for Schools can build schools in any area
  - Grant-maintained schools to be given freedom to open nurseries or sixth forms
  - Local authorities must pass on 95 per cent of education budgets to schools

10 per cent of pupils are in opted-out schools.

Future ballots on opting out will be scrutinised by independent monitors. The new ballot observers are intended to cut the number of votes contested after claims of abuse in the often bitter local campaigns.

Local authority schools will also acquire greater self-government. Education authorities will have to delegate 95 per cent of school budgets to their governors, rather than the present 85 per cent.

Although legislation will not be possible until an after an election, the Department for Education and Employment said the move would give schools an extra £600 million, or £100 per pupil, to spend as they wished. Labour is also committed to increasing the proportion of funds delegated to schools.

Mrs Shepherd said that her proposals would raise standards by securing the best possible match between what schools offered and what parents wanted. In future, towns might have a grammar school, a specialist college, and a comprehensive existing side by side. She accused opposition parties of supporting an out-dated, monolithic education system, while the Government offered parents greater choice.

But Labour said only one

pupil in 20 would benefit from grammar schools, while others were consigned to secondary moderns. Far from giving parents greater choice, the effect would be to allow schools to choose their pupils.

Methods of selection, both in the new grammar schools and in grammar streams, will be a matter for local discretion. The City Technology Colleges Trust has commissioned research to produce tests of aptitude for specialist colleges. Academic selection will be by test or interview.

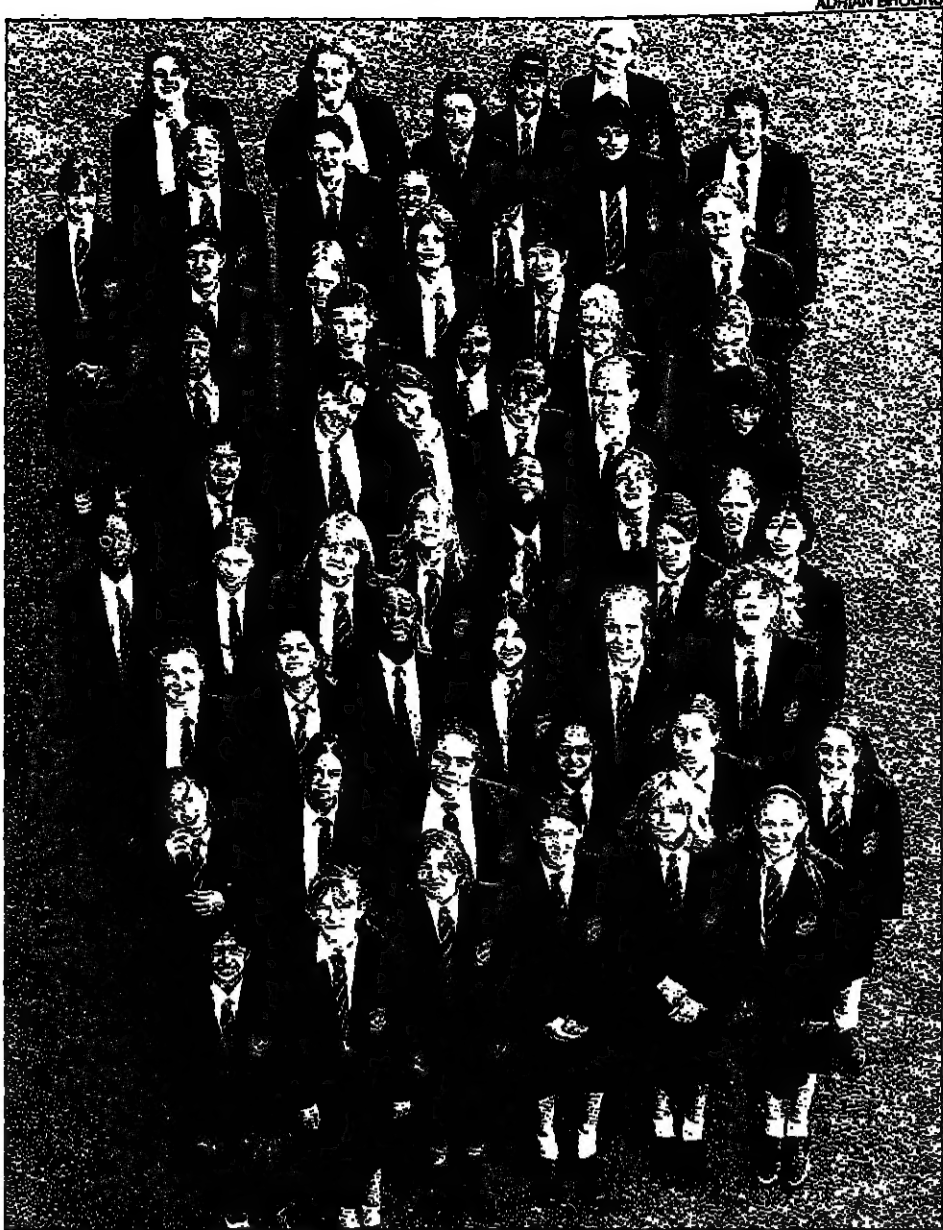
Head teachers and teacher unions had nothing but condemnation for the selection proposals. Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Parents will be denied a place when their child is rejected by the school of their choice. Schools will choose the children they believe will improve their league table positions. This crazy proposal will mean children denied a place at their local school will have to travel miles instead."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "It is deeply damaging to chop and change the structure of the education service at every generation. The priority should be to make the present overwhelmingly comprehensive system work as well as it can. Privately, Gillian Shepherd must be hoping she will never have to implement any of the zany ideas put forward in the White Paper."

The Secondary Heads Association said that the document was a "muddled compromise" that would lead to a haphazard and incoherent pattern of schools and do nothing to raise standards. John Dunford, the president, said: "There is no research evidence to support this policy. It is based on a political philosophy, not on the reality of the current situation."

The National Association of Head Teachers said that sink schools and a rising underclass would be created by more selection.

Simon Jenkins, page 20  
Leading article, page 21



Pupils from the grammar stream at the comprehensive Reading Girls' School

## Pioneering comprehensive welcomes bigger challenge

By DAVID CHARTER  
AND JOHN O'LEARY

THE first comprehensive school in the country to introduce a grammar school stream yesterday welcomed the chance to increase its number of bright pupils.

The Reading Girls' School, formerly Southlands, caused a stir in 1993 when it won approval to admit 30 pupils a year by examination. Far from opening the floodgates of a return to academic selection, as many predicted, just five more grant-maintained schools have followed its example.

About 100 girls take tests in November to try for a place in the selective stream the following September. The girls

are also tested when they start school to place them in ability sets for every subject. The sets are reviewed annually.

In 1992, just 14 per cent of the girls achieved five or more grades A to C at GCSE. By 1995, this had risen to 19 per cent, but the school is hoping for a bigger improvement when the first selective year takes GCSEs in 1998.

Clare Hallows, head teacher, denied that partial selection had diluted the school's comprehensive ethos. "We are fully comprehensive," she said. "We have girls of all ability levels, from the extremely bright to those with learning difficulties."

In Penrith, Cumbria, the first grant-maintained comprehensive to become a gram-

mar school is thriving but the scars of the selection debate are still visible. Queen Elizabeth Grammar School regained its status two years ago after an acrimonious dispute.

The neighbouring Ullswater Community College complained that it would become a secondary modern school in all but name, and 70 people and organisations made formal objections to the change. The grammar school believes opinion is shifting many who opposed the change remain unconvinced.

Colin Birnie, the head teacher, said: "The system works well here, but I would not advise everybody to jump on the bandwagon. It will not necessarily be appropriate in other towns."

## Head teachers examine new option with great caution

By KYLE SMITH, JOHN O'LEARY AND DAVID CHARTER

FORMER grammar schools transformed by the comprehensive revolution in the 1960s and 1970s showed little appetite yesterday for a return to selective status.

More than 1,100 grammars disappeared after Labour decided in 1965 to create comprehensive schools in every town. In England 162 grammar schools remain. Scotland and Wales have none.

Some chose to become independent or direct-grant schools to maintain their tradition of selection, but most became comprehensives or sixth-form colleges.

Martin Roberts, head teacher of The Cherwell School in Oxford, which became comprehensive 23 years ago, said: "We're the sort of school that the Government would like to move, but we definitely won't." He said that the White Paper proposals were "so distant from anything that should be national priorities. It is absolutely lunatic."

King Edward VII School, once Sheffield's most famous grammar school, has no wish to return to selection. Michael Lewis, the head teacher, said: "We think that the issue is the challenge of educating all our children to the highest possible levels, and we cannot see how these proposals will achieve that."

At Hinchbrook School in Huntingdon, parents rejected selection when consulted recently. Peter Downes, the head teacher, said parents wanted to retain a wide spread of ability in the school.

However, Chris Perner, head of the grant-maintained Fairfield High School for Girls in Droylsden, said that the comprehensive would consider reverting to its pre-1975 grammar status. "Certainly there is a heavy demand in the local area."

Geoffrey Fallows, head of The Camden School for Girls in London, a grammar until 1976, said that it chose five children on the basis of their aptitude for music but had no plans for further selection.

The Greycoat School in London, a comprehensive

since 1979, is oversubscribed but does not select on the basis of ability. Flavia Lambert, the acting deputy head, said: "All we are concerned about is having an equal number across the ability range."

Ken Williams, head of Marlwood School in Gloucestershire, a comprehensive since 1972, said he would resist even partial selection. "Times have moved on. Our community — our customers, if you will — would not want us to revert to grammar school status."

The City of Leicester School, a comprehensive since 1976, opposes selection. Bryan Lewis, the head, said: "I am satisfied we have a comprehensive school here that embraces all types, sizes, shapes, colours, and we are the better for it."

Kevin McAleese, head of Harrogate Grammar School, said it was likely to remain comprehensive, as it has been since 1973, because of the demands of parents.

There was no interest in selection at The King James's School in Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, the grant-maintained Bingley Grammar School, or Bellevue Boys School in Bradford. All three have been comprehensives for at least 20 years.

Ann Gregory, deputy head of The Hillcrest School, Birmingham, a grammar until 1973, said: "We are very successful as a comprehensive school and very committed to comprehensive education."

Priory School, in Portsmouth, Hampshire, was The Portsmouth Southern Grammar School for Girls until turning comprehensive 21 years ago. Bryan Davies, head teacher, said: "One or two governors may regret the passing of the grammar schools but the majority view would be to remain comprehensive."

The remaining listings of post-graduate courses for 1996-97, due to be published today, have been held until next week.

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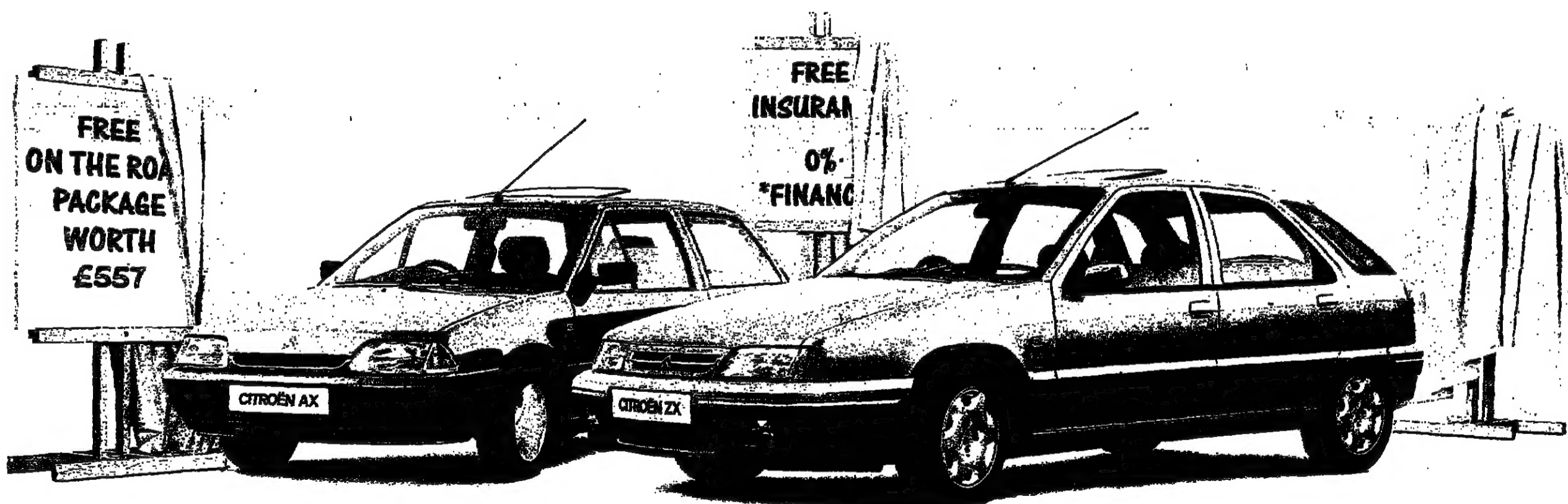




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THE TIMES  
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By ALICE THOMAS  
 THE Prime Minister's situation... when John Major... Straw... out their party... devolution and... Lords.  
 The Prime Minister... become... constitution... areas on which... united and... clear blue water... parties.  
 In a speech... right-wing... Studies, Mr Major... the voters... Tony Blair... irrevocably... plans for... assemblies. He... the plans would... more power to...  
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 Mr Straw, the... Home Secretary, will... with a speech to the... tional reformists at... He will say that the... from acting as... have failed to safeguard... constitution. Instead...

TODAY in the Commons... an Education and... Select Committee report... work and welfare... Committee report on... inflation, backbench... Labour-led debate...



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## By JAMES LANDALE

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THE TIMES  
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### New fight from the to fill power

FROM 8

A WEEK after  
Yeltsin's security  
chief, several  
have emerged  
ing to fill the  
vacuum left in  
the Kremlin.

General Aleks  
kov, Mr Yeltsin's  
and the chief of  
security service  
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The man who  
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Anatoli Kuznetsov  
now confirmed  
Mr Yeltsin's  
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side and he  
General Kozhakov  
front passenger  
presidential limo.

Little is known  
broad shoulder  
ficer except that  
trained by the  
Directorate, responsible  
guarding Soviet  
was handpicked  
Kozhakov.

"Kuznetsov's role  
changed. He has  
the President for 10  
years, but nobody

### Murder moment

Riyadh: A Saudi  
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## Lebed purges generals loyal to sacked Grachev

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S new security boss, Aleksandr Lebed, purged seven generals from the Defence Ministry yesterday in his first big shake-up since being appointed to the Kremlin.

The sackings were a death blow for a clique of men close to the former Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, who controlled military policy in Russia for the past four years. Almost all were close allies of the former minister, who was sacked last week, and four of them were named by General Lebed as conspirators in a plot to put forces on high alert and agitate for General Grachev to keep his job.

General Valeri Lapshov, a former classmate of General Grachev, was head of the ministry's apparatus and his right-hand man. General Dmitri Kharchenko was another college friend and his daughter is married to General Grachev's son, Sergei. Two of the other sacked men held senior posts: Viktor Barynkov was No. 2 in the General Staff and Vladimir Shulikov was Deputy Commander of Land Forces.

The sackings were also aimed at bringing in the

military vote for President Yeltsin in the second round of the presidential election on July 3. Ordinary soldiers, who respect General Lebed's reputation for honesty, resent the high levels of corruption in the Defence Ministry.

However, General Lebed has also upset many in the armed forces with a series of

Staff, and Andrei Nikolayev, the widely respected head of the Russian Border Guards. The appointment of General Rodionov would be controversial as he was in charge of an operation in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, in 1989 in which 20 demonstrators died. General Lebed also met President Yeltsin yesterday to

speediest possible peace settlement. His views appear to coincide with those of Mr Yeltsin, for whom the war has become a millstone.

The President has signed a decree formally ordering Russian troops to start withdrawing from the republic. The June 10 agreement, signed in Nazran, obliges the Russians to pull out all their forces, apart from two brigades, by August 31. However, low-intensity fighting has continued.

Vacheslav Tikhomirov, the Russian commander in Chechnya, has made scornful remarks about the peace deal in recent days, referring to "so-called negotiations" and calling the Chechens "bandits". General Lebed has said he plans to visit Chechnya after the July 3 elections.

**Zyuganov confident:** Gennadi Zyuganov said he would beat President Yeltsin in next week's election, despite a cool reception for his plan for a national peace pact and coalition government. "We are sure the result will be in our favour," he told a news conference. "I see people are tired of confrontation." (Reuters)

### A call to armchairs

BY RUSSIAN military tradition, the sacked generals will be given handsome pensions and allowed to retire in peace (Thomas De Waal writes). Russia is thought to have the highest

number of generals, serving and retired, of any armed forces — more than 2,000. General Grachev has spent the past week at his dacha, playing tennis and refusing to talk to the press.

stormy telegrams and aggressive statements in his first days in office, which have broken old norms of Soviet military etiquette. Much will now depend on who is made Defence Minister in succession to General Grachev.

The two favourites are Igor Rodionov, an old comrade of General Lebed, who is head of the Academy of the General

Staff, and Andrei Nikolayev, the widely respected head of the Russian Border Guards. The appointment of General Rodionov would be controversial as he was in charge of an operation in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, in 1989 in which 20 demonstrators died. General Lebed also met President Yeltsin yesterday to

discuss his new job as secretary of the presidential Security Council. Two deputy secretaries were dismissed immediately afterwards. The Security Council has been the main decision-making body on policy in Chechnya and the general is likely to turn his attention to the conflict there. General Lebed has argued for the

## New figures emerge from the shadows to fill power vacuum

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

A WEEK after President Yeltsin sacked his hardline security and intelligence chiefs, several new figures have emerged in the jockeying to fill the enormous power vacuum left in the heart of the Kremlin.

General Aleksandr Korzhakov, Mr Yeltsin's bodyguard and the chief of the Kremlin security service, and General Mikhail Barsukov, the head of the Federal Intelligence Service (FSB), had occupied two of the most influential positions in Russia before their dismissal last week, amid allegations of a coup plot.

The man who has most visibly benefited from General Korzhakov's sudden departure is Lieutenant-Colonel Anatoli Kuznetsov, who has now confirmed his position as Mr Yeltsin's personal bodyguard. Throughout the current presidential election campaign the hulking figure of Colonel Kuznetsov has rarely left the Russian leader's side and he has replaced General Korzhakov in the front passenger seat of the presidential limousine.

Little is known about the broad shouldered young officer except that he was trained by the KGB's Ninth Directorate, responsible for guarding Soviet VIPs, and was handpicked by General Korzhakov.

"Kuznetsov's role has not changed. He has been beside the President for the past two years, but nobody noticed him

because all attention was focused on Korzhakov," said Sergei Medvedev, the Kremlin spokesman. "There is nothing sinister about his work. He is a member of the security services trained to guard the President's life. That is it."

Behind the scenes, however, a shift in power may have occurred with the appointment of Lieutenant-General Yuri Kravtsov as the acting head of the Kremlin security service, which not only protects the Kremlin leader but has its own commando force, intelligence operation and an analytical centre.

Yesterday General Kravtsov, another KGB veteran and Korzhakov protégé, was promoted to membership of a key commission, under the control of General Aleksandr Lebed, the new National Security Adviser, to oversee the appointment of senior officers in the military. As for the FSB, the successor to the KGB, General Barsukov's position is currently being filled by Lieutenant-General Nikolai Kovalyev. However, his appointment as acting director is already being challenged by Sergei Stepashin, a former FSB chief who was sacked a year ago.

While many Kremlin observers believe it is too early to predict who will benefit from the upheavals, most agree that General Korzhakov could re-emerge after the elections in the centre of power.

## Murderers reprieved moments from death

Riyadh: A Saudi man and woman convicted of murder were pardoned moments before they were to be executed before a crowd in Saudi Arabia's northern desert city of Hail. *Okaz* newspaper reported yesterday.

A policeman told a crowd that had come to watch the man's beheading and the woman's execution by firing squad that relatives of their

victims had pardoned them. The Governor of Hail, Prince Mokran ibn-Abdul Aziz, secured the pardons. *Okaz* said. Fawwaz ibn-Obeid ibn-Habib al-Shammari was condemned to death after he was found guilty of murdering a relative. Raya bint Samihanal-Rashidi was sentenced for killing a boy. Under Islamic law, a victim's father or heirs can grant a pardon. (AFP)



Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, plays volleyball in Moscow yesterday as his rival in the race for the Kremlin, President Yeltsin, notched up a 20-point poll lead

## Queen's birthday shift by colony

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

NEXT year's Hong Kong celebration of the Queen's birthday has been moved back two weeks because of the Chinese takeover of the colony. It will be on June 28, instead of June 16, becoming part of the changeover festivities.

Hong Kong's 1997 holidays, announced yesterday, give a clue to the upheaval ahead. July 1 will mark "Hong Kong returning to China, Special Autonomous Region Establishment Day". August 18 becomes "Sino-Japanese War Victory Day" and October 1, "National Day".

June 28 is "The Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen", moved "to facilitate community participation in the events surrounding the transition". The very British day injects an element of the past into what will be a pro-Peking weekend.

Even more understated is the description of Monday, June 30, the final day of British rule. In the official gazette it will be marked as "the Monday following the Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen".

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**FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM**

In a first comment, Nicolas Burns, the State Department spokesman, said Washington took "very seriously" the reports of the transfer of Scud materials and would be looking into them. He said at this stage "we have not determined that there has been any violation of US [anti-proliferation] law" that could require the imposition of sanctions.



By CHRISTOPHER WALKER

Mr Christopher was dismissive of last weekend's Arab summit communiqué, claiming that diversity between the 21 leaders present ensured that "it is not a useful document for negotiating purposes".

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DAY JUNE 26 1996

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JUNE 26 1996

OVERSEAS NEWS 15

## German business fears backlash by China over Tibet

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

BONN and Peking were yesterday caught up in a political feud that could harm Germany's position as China's main European trading partner. Contracts worth billions of marks are being negotiated and, although each side claimed yesterday that the row would not hurt commerce, there was anxiety here.

China was angered by a Bundestag resolution last week accusing the Chinese of trying to eradicate Tibet's cultural identity. Peking cancelled an invitation to Klaus Kinkel, Germany's Foreign Minister, who was due next month. After some hesitation, Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, told other Cabinet members to call off their dogs.

Battle lines appeared to harden yesterday. There is no reason for us to take back anything that we said in the Tibet resolution," a German Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said. "Visits were cancelled and this is clear language."

The ripples have spread through the whole range of Sino-German relations. Senior German army officers cancelled scheduled visits, and President Herzog's November state visit is in doubt. However, the most significant moves concern business. There are signs that the Chinese Embassy is holding up businessmen's visas, and a September conference on small business investment may be cancelled.

Bilateral trade stands at

about DM27 billion (about £12 billion) and new German investment has been flooding in over the past two years. Cumulative German investment in China between 1979 and 1993 was only DM1.5 billion. But in 1994 alone there was investment of DM1.3 billion. So far this year, there have been statements of intent amounting to DM3 billion worth of new investment.

Germany is in a strong position to flex its muscles. Sino-American relations have reached an historic low and at least some of the recent German trade reflects that.

The largest German contract in the offing is the DM6 billion BASF plan to build an integrated petrochemical plant in Nanking, with 50 per cent German participation. The company said yesterday there was "currently no reason to fear a setback".

In November 1995, during a visit to China by Herr Kohl, 12 declarations of intent were signed - hailed as a breakthrough in relations - and defence ties broken after Tiananmen were resumed. The Chinese then assumed human rights issues would take a lower profile.

Bonn, conscious of the need to save China's face, has never called for Tibetan independence. Last week's parliamentary resolution, backed by the Government, came as a shock to China. Moreover, it came after a Tibetan cultural exhibi-

tion, a well publicised symposium on Tibet and a renewed invitation to the Dalai Lama. Germany, in the Chinese view, seemed to be moving closer to recognising Tibet.

Heinrich Weiss, chairman of the powerful Asian-Pacific economic lobbying group and an industrialist, claims the large number of German-Chinese ventures forces Peking to listen to Bonn. About 100,000 Chinese are employed because of German investments. However, the confederation of German industry sounded a note of panic yesterday when it declared that "misunderstandings must not be allowed to damage economic relations".

China, on the face of it, has more to lose from a lasting trade war because it is the biggest supplier of toys to Germany and exports clothing and electrical products.

Leading article, page 21



Tarja Halonen, Finland's Foreign Minister, centre, surveys the site of a mass grave at Kravice in Bosnian Serb territory where Finnish experts are to collect the remains of Muslims killed when nearby Srebrenica was overrun last year. Only a

## Dig for Bosnia bodies

fraction of the suspected victims may ever be uncovered because of the problems surrounding the task (Eve Ann Prentice writes). The move to begin excavat-

The Hague is to begin hearing evidence against Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, and General Ratko Mladic, his military chief. It was announced, meanwhile, that Bosnia will hold its first postwar election on September 14.

## Spanish conqueror felled by vandals

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

VANDALS have toppled and mutilated the statue of the conquistador Vasco Núñez de Balboa, one of Madrid's best-known landmarks.

The bronze statue, unveiled in 1953 to mark the 450th anniversary of Balboa's discovery of the Pacific Ocean, is prostrate and half-submerged in an ornamental pool, surrounded by empty wine bottles. The conquistador's sword-bearing right arm has also been severed from the body.

While Balboa is celebrated in Spain for his New World conquests, he is perhaps more familiar to lovers of English literature as the victim of a spectacular example of poetic licence.

In his *On First Looking into Chapman's Homer*, John Keats stated that it was "stout Cortez" who first "stared at the Pacific". Keats immortalised the wrong man. It was, in fact, Balboa who stood with all his men, "silent, upon a peak in Darien".

## Slovenes recall short war that led to prosperity

By ROGER BOYES

IT WAS, everybody seemed to agree, bad opera... Puccini, perhaps, with lyrics by Clauswitz. The ten-day Slovene war of independence, which broke out five years ago today, was little more than a series of skirmishes in defence of a charming, verdant alpine republic. Yet these were also the initial shots in half a decade of grisly fighting on the southern cusp of Europe, not so much an opera as the first act of a full blown tragedy.

Slovenes celebrated their independence not on the traditional Congress Square in Ljubljana, where in 1918 they had shrugged off Austrian rule, but on Republic Square, a soulless stretch of pavement hemmed in by banks, a supermarket and the parliament. As they returned home on the city's cobbled streets, the sirens blared. In a quavering voice, a radio announcer declared: "The tanks of the Yugoslav Peoples' Army have left their barracks."

In the following days the sirens sounded again and again, as Yugoslav MiGs buzzed the capital. Slovenia is perfect guerrilla country and the Slovene Army showed us models to demonstrate how Yugoslav tank columns could be blocked in the mountain passes. Some 70,000 men, out of a population of barely two million, had been mobilised. Ljubljana had the social structure of Toytown, and the soldiers included fishermen, bank clerks and bus drivers. The war, we slowly grasped, was being fought for the press. Reports of great military encounters reached

the world's media in the bombproof basement of the parliament building. But quick excursions to the reported battle sites revealed at best a few buckled vehicles or a burnt-out roof. Even after five years of mythologising, the local television station was recently hard put to cobble together a war documentary from the video footage.

Compared to what happened later, when the Yugoslav Army shifted its attention to Croatia which had also declared independence, the Slovene war was a passage in minor key. The final death toll was 67, 44 of whom were Yugoslav soldiers. But the war did matter. One of the first conditions of independence is the ability to defend sovereign borders. The Slovenes did so successfully, partly because their declaration

One of the conditions of independence is the ability to defend borders

prompted a crisis in the Yugoslav Army. Tank columns got within 19 miles of the capital and then withdrew; a great victory was declared. The issue of ethnic allegiance hung over the Army and forced generals to ask whether a unified Socialist Yugoslavia was a goal worth fighting for. The war also triggered a European foreign policy crisis. On July 5 Hans-Dietrich Genscher, then German Foreign Minister, said that Europe should recognise the independence of Croatia and Slovenia. This became part of a catastrophic European Union strategy in the Balkans. A Croatian pop singer penned a song: *Dankeschön Deutschland*. Briefly, very briefly, it topped the local charts.

Slovenia, divorced from its southern neighbours, now prospers. Ljubljana is full of exclusive shops; 300 companies have been privatised and another 1,000 will soon follow. The small country has won the highest credit rating in post-Communist Europe. Increasingly it is mentioned as one of the first wave entrants to the EU. This week the Slovenes will abandon their factories and celebrate their short ruritanian war.

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which started in the early 1900s has moved to the nearby speed track, home of the Daytona 500, driving on the

economy, environmentalists have sued Volusia County, the area covering the beach, arguing that cars are destroying

locals who say the five million vehicles using the beach each year bring in \$3 million (£1.93 million) in access fees.

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# Natal warlords pave way for peaceful poll

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN MPUMALANGA, NEAR DURBAN

SIPHO MLABA'S chubby face was enveloped in a grin as he pointed along the dusty street towards colourful posters promoting rival political parties hung side by side on lampposts by campaign workers — a rare sight in KwaZulu/Natal where in many areas such an act can be life-threatening.

"We have proved that politics and violence do not have to go together in this province," the former warlord declared proudly. "People should be free to choose." For a local political leader, not least one who struck dread into his opponents, his tolerant language seems extraordinary.

Yet the recent history of Mpumalanga, which has seen its transformation from war zone to peace haven, is out of the ordinary. And as South Africa's most troubled province prepares to vote in delayed local government elections today, there is new hope that the poll could pave the way for greater political tolerance and peace by drawing on the lessons learnt in this township, 30 miles north of Durban's beaches.

Even by the bloody standards of KwaZulu/Natal, where 15,000 have died since the mid-1980s because of

conflict between supporters of the African National Congress and their Inkatha Freedom Party rivals, Mpumalanga was notorious. Once dubbed the Beirut of South Africa, more than half of the population had fled the sprawling township by the late 1980s to escape fighting which in one weekend alone claimed 38 lives.

As an Inkatha warlord, Mr Mlaba,



Buthelesi: toning down inflammatory rhetoric

46, was a target for assassination, and saw his thriving business destroyed. After losing two brothers and many other relatives during clashes in 1990, he agreed to peace talks with Meshack Radebe, an ANC warlord. They struck up an immediate rapport, travelled together in public set up peace committees and eventually staged a joint political rally.

"It was very dangerous for both of us," said the bearded, burly Mr Mlaba, who once would never travel anywhere without armed protection, "because many criminals profited from the conflict and people on my own side were against peace."

Though shaky at times, the peace has held and the results have been inspirational: thousands of former residents have flocked back to the township, swelling the population from 40,000 to 200,000; houses, schools and clinics have been rebuilt and hundreds of jobs created through new business.

Touted as peacemakers, the two men have visited America and Burundi to share their experiences, and recently received a government grant to train former youth fighters to become peace monitors. The birth of the project coincided with an announcement by provincial leaders earlier this month of a fresh local peace initiative. Drawing on the lessons of Mpumalanga, warlords from both sides, acknowledging their guilt, swore to become "peacefords" and hold rallies with their foes.

With Inkatha aiming to improve on its 50 per cent share of the vote in the province in the 1994 general election, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelesi, the Inkatha leader, has toned down his more inflammatory language.

The apparent political goodwill and accompanying fall in political violence has raised expectations. But many observers remain sceptical that it will endure, not least because 30,000 security personnel have been deployed for the poll.

## Tourists' rapists jailed

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

FIVE black men who attacked and gang-raped three British tourists and a New Zealander in South Africa were sentenced to between 17 and 23 years' imprisonment yesterday.

The men were convicted last week in the Supreme Court at Umtata in Eastern Cape province of rape, kidnapping and armed robbery, but were cleared of attempted murder.

The tourists' ordeal began last September when they were driving through the former Transkei bantustan and became lost after

nightfall. The five men in a truck opened fire on their hired car and forced them to stop.

The women and Denis Drude, 24, a medical student from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, were forced to strip. He could only watch helplessly while the women were attacked.

The men later drove off in their car. The tourists huddled, naked and terrified, under bushes at the roadside until daybreak, when they ventured into a nearby village where they were given food and clothing.

At Christmas the mother of one of the British women sent £80 to buy food and drink for a village party.

## Pakistan threatens to stall test ban treaty

BY MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

INTENSIVE talks to complete the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty before this week's deadline were thrown into turmoil yesterday by a warning from Pakistan that it might refuse to sign the treaty if India did not endorse it.

Munir Akram, Pakistan's Ambassador in Geneva, said

India's announcement last week that it would not sign the draft without a clear timetable for eliminating all nuclear weapons "could spell the death-knell of the treaty". He called on the disarmament conference in Geneva to find "constructive compromises" to "meet Delhi's demands; and said Pakistan was prepared to negotiate "around the clock".

Indian Defence Minister, said yesterday that India would not buckle under Western pressure to sign the pact, saying that it was discriminatory. "We cannot accept the fact that a few countries will be allowed to rely on nuclear weapons for their security while denying the same right to others," Mr Yadav said.

America and its Western allies say that until the "threshold" states, which include Pakistan and India, sign the treaty, it cannot come into force as it would not guarantee the elimination of all nuclear tests throughout the world.

## Herbal extract inhibits HIV

Singapore: A team of scientists has isolated a chemical compound from herbs that inhibits the growth of an HIV enzyme needed for the Aids virus to mature. Dr Sim Keng Yew, of the National University of Singapore, said yesterday that it had taken more than three years to test extracts from about 75 herbs on the enzyme. (Reuters)

## Trial focuses on moustache

BY ROGER MAYNARD

THE backpacker murder trial moved towards its conclusion yesterday with the defence completing its case almost three months to the day after Ivan Milat entered the dock at Sydney's supreme court.

Photographs of Mr Milat and Merv Hughes, the Australian cricketer, were shown to the jury to illustrate their styles of moustache. Mr Milat, now clean-shaven, has insisted that he never had a Merv Hughes-style moustache, the type described by Paul Onions, a British tourist who was allegedly kidnapped by Mr Milat in January 1990.

Earlier, Chander Hughes, Mr Milat's girlfriend, described how she found a top, identical to one worn by Caroline Clarke, the murdered British backpacker, in her boyfriend's house. She did not know how it got there but said: "Definitely it was not my top."

Mr Milat, a road worker, has pleaded not guilty to charges of murdering seven young tourists whose bodies were found in the Belanglo State Forest between September 1992 and November 1993. Two victims were Britons.

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**THE** car enthusiasts who have made Daytona Beach a byword for speed and beach parties are under pressure from environmentalists who fear they pose a threat to the loggerhead turtle.

Although the motor racing which started in the early 1900s has moved to the nearby speed track, home of the Daytona 500, driving on the







K.  
18

what we believe

what I believe  
MAX CLIFFORD

Do you believe in God? I believe in Christianity as a way of life. Do you believe in ghosts? Not at all. Is there life after death? I would like to think that something of our spirit lives on. Do you believe in astrology? It's simply light relief and not to be taken seriously. Do you think your sins will be punished? I believe we are punished in this life, even though sometimes it doesn't seem as if we are. Have you ever prayed? Although I never go to church, I pray to God every day. Does faith matter? I think without faith we are lost. It improves the quality of life. It gives us a set of guidelines by which to live. Have you ever had a mystical experience? I speak to my mother Lilian all the time, even though she died many years ago. I have this feeling that she is always with me.

what I believe

JOHN ASPINALL

Do you believe in God? I believe in the natural world. I worship the forces of nature — earthquakes, tidal waves, volcanic eruptions, great famines. Do you believe in ghosts? The spirits of the past are with us in our genes. Is there life after death? Our immortality resides in our genes. Do you believe in astrology? Who knows what influence the gravitational force of the Moon has on us? Do you think your sins will be punished? I think you're punished in this world if you do violence to your own view of yourself. Have you ever prayed? I never pray. Does faith matter? Faith is important. You have to believe in yourself, in your tribe and in your country. Have you ever had a mystical experience? I have experienced moments of mysticism when animals have been able to share my thoughts.

Day Three: The orthodoxy of no God at all; plus an alluring oriental alternative

# We atheists know right from wrong



Nigella Lawson

It feels almost tactless, in the middle of all this renewing of faith and wallowing in spirituality, to bring up the case against God. But that's to put it too inflammatorily: what needs to be put is the case for atheism.

I don't wish to be naïve about this. I recognise that it is assumed that atheism has held enough sway as it is, and what's more is held directly to blame for the fine moral mess we're all in now, and which so alarms the good Dr Carey. I recognise, too, that now might not be the best time to reassess my faith in it, that I thereby run the risk of sounding like those dejected souls at the fall of the Berlin Wall who declared (and not without justification, either) that socialism hadn't failed, it just hadn't been tried yet.

The religious, or perhaps more precisely the nominally religious but devotionally inactive, think of atheism in purely negative terms. This is why in any argument an atheist is perceived to be essentially nihilistic, morally hollow if not morally bankrupt. But to be an atheist is not simply to have a vacuum where other people have belief: it is a positive unbelief. It is a choice, an intellectual and moral choice.

And it's no good arguing that without a religious framework there can be no moral framework, because we know that practically it doesn't work like that. Religion doesn't make people good, nor make them make good choices. It can, of course, describe an

intention to be good, do good, but it can also take away responsibility for moral choices. It is a case in point that there is a disproportionately high number of Roman Catholics convicted and sent to jail. Now, I wouldn't for one minute claim that Catholicism, or any faith, leads to criminal activity or underlines a criminal disposition. But if what is good or bad is seen to reside outside oneself, then so does some of the responsibility for it.

Religion gives rules, it provides order. Surely it requires a greater sense of morality to vest these rules, this order within oneself. Atheism as a rigorous, committed humanism attempts to do just that. It says that the meaning of life doesn't rest in some afterlife,

## MORALITY

access to which is governed by a strict system of reward and punishment, but in life itself. Thus, for the atheist, virtue is indeed its own reward. There's no heavenly bribe to make us do good, or hellish torment to keep us from doing ill.

John Patten once said that people would behave better if they had the fear of God put in them, that children would behave better if they were threatened with a bit of fire and brimstone. In a less vigorous way, this is what Dr Carey is saying, too. I'm not sure that the fear of hell and damnation is a failsafe incentive to be good. It should be, of course, but it hasn't been so in the past. What made people behave better, with more sense of community, in the past was not so much the wrath of God but the wrath of the neighbours. It is social values that we need to consider here, rather than spiritual ones.

Yes, they are linked, and of course a shared sense of values needs to underlie this sense of community, but I don't believe that depends on active churchgoing. Historically speaking we necessarily share values: whether religious or not we are shaped by the Judeo-Christian tradition. Perhaps where we have fallen down is not in failing to instill a sense of God, but in failing to understand how important it is to be imbued with a sense of culture.

But to be without one doesn't necessitate being without the other. I was brought up

an atheist and have always remained so. But at no time was I led to believe that morality was unimportant or that good and bad did not exist. I believe passionately in the need to distinguish between right and wrong and am somewhat confounded by being told I need God, Jesus or a clergyman to help me to do so. More: I'm offended. And one is constantly being told how offensive is a lack of faith to believers.

As I say, somehow to treat religion with the respect its apologists demand is seen to be coarse and inconsiderate. But I see no evidence of any tolerance shown by the religiously inclined towards those of us who, on a point of equal principle, are unbelievers. I happen to think there are worse things in life than being offended. I am sure enough of my intellectual and moral stand on this one to withstand any amount of prodding and probing, and I wonder only why those who are wounded on behalf of God feel so unsure of theirs.

I don't denounce the religious impulse, but I question how we should interpret it. The very human history of God and religion is just one way of describing what we feel is important, but it is just as possible to share that very sense of what is important without recourse to metaphor, which is all, in effect, that religion surely is.



Christians have no monopoly on morality; indeed, religion can dilute moral responsibility

## Where the spirit meets reason

What makes Buddhism so attractive an alternative to the familiar orthodoxy of Western religion? Since detailed information about it first became available around the middle of the last century, this oriental creed has exerted an enduring fascination on the Western imagination.

From the outset it appealed to a broad spectrum of society, from the intellectual to the plain curious. Today, its appeal is no less broad and its followers include celebrities such as Tina Turner and Richard Gere as well as those who have become disenchanted with established religion.

Its success lies in its ability to integrate two strands which have become separate in Western culture: the spiritual and the rational. Buddhism

seems able to refresh the spiritual parts that Christianity can no longer reach. Unlike post-Reformation Christianity, Buddhism is not embarrassed by belief in psychic powers and unseen forces, and displays an easy familiarity with both the cosmos and the human psyche.

Established religion — in retreat before science and the secular professions — has abdicated its claim to this territory. Many find Buddhism more in tune with modern life. Where Christianity offers counselling, Buddhism offers a sophisticated spiritual technology.

The second reason for Buddhism's appeal is its thoroughgoing rationalism in matters of doctrine, coupled with the absence of any requirement for uncompre-

## BUDDHISM



Buddhist monks at prayer

hending faith or belief. Scientific discoveries, and theories such as evolution, have challenged many Christian teachings, and the long rearguard action fought by established religion in defence of revealed

"truths" has made it seem dogmatic, irrational, and backward-looking. By contrast there seem few Buddhist doctrines which are in direct conflict with science.

The absence of an anthropomorphic concept of deity is another feature which makes Buddhism more acceptable to the modern mind. Even belief in reincarnation — one of the more exotic aspects of Buddhism — is rapidly becoming part of popular culture.

It is undogmatic, even to the extent of instructing its followers not to accept its own teachings uncritically. Its moral teachings are not expressed as commandments in the imperative form but as rational principles which, if followed, will lead to the good and happiness of oneself and others. The Buddhist tolera-

tion of alternative viewpoints contrasts with some of the darker episodes in the history of Western religion.

Buddhism has one great — if unfair — advantage over Christianity: it has not yet failed in the way that established religion is widely perceived to have. However, it seems to lack a "social gospel" and is largely silent on contemporary moral issues. Searching questions remain to be asked when the honeymoon is over.

DAMIEN KEOWN

This article contains extracts from the author's forthcoming book *Buddhism: A Very Short Introduction*, to be published by Oxford University Press on October 3. The writer is Senior Lecturer in Indian Religion at Goldsmiths College, University of London.

## what I believe

KENT LIVINGSTONE

Do you believe in God? I used to believe in Jesus when I was at school, then I became an atheist and now I consider myself to be an agnostic. Do you believe in ghosts? My mother and my grandmother used to visit spiritualists and it was the inexplicable accuracy of some of the messages they received that made me question my earlier atheism. Is there life after death? What defines us as human beings is the data that is stored in our brain cells and I just don't know what happens to that when we die. There are things in life that are simply inexplicable.

Do you believe in astrology? It is absolute rubbish. Do you think your sins will be punished? I am certain that there is no God watching us and passing judgment on our sins. Have you ever prayed? I did as a child. Does faith matter? I think you have to have some sort of framework by which you can try to develop a civilised way of living. Religion provides one kind of framework. We are animals and the entire 10,000 years of human civilisation has been about trying to build frameworks to control our instincts.

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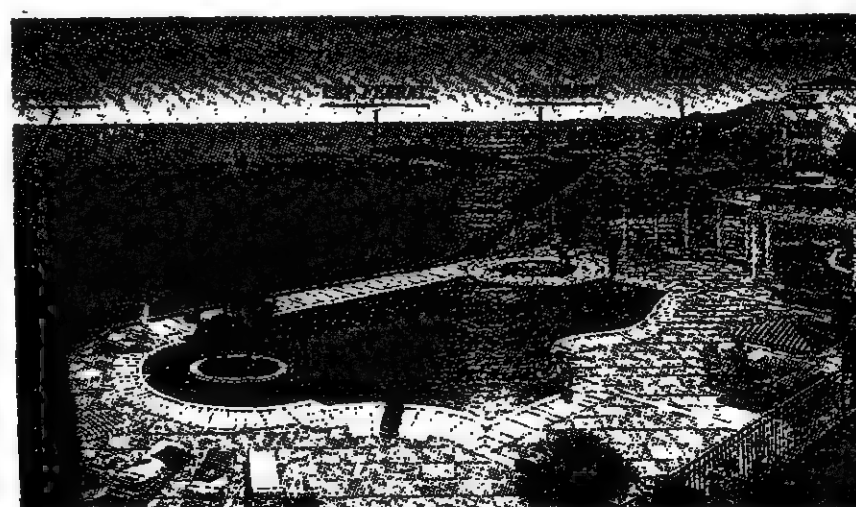
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## Alan Coren



### Doctors can alleviate the NHS cash crisis with a more personal service

Forgive, if you can find it in your hearts to read this, the usual hyperbole, lurid headlines and hot air. There is something special about the contest. It has stirred deep feelings.

It invites us all to think again about the problem of Germany. The German question has bedevilled Europe in the 20th century. When peace followed the Allies' victory in 1945, the German question was temporarily resolved by splitting Germany, by occupying it, by dismantling it. Germany responded magnificently by establishing a flourishing democracy in the West, turning to the arts of peace and pursuing trade, industry and prosperity.

For 45 years, this settlement worked. The German question was suspended, replaced by the issue of how far communism would expand, and how West Berlin could be defended against a Soviet takeover. The threat of the Soviet Union's military might kept the United States strongly committed to peace in Europe, and kept the centre of Europe weak. The German plains were used for Nato or Soviet tank-training.

The world has been slow to adjust to the pulling down of the Berlin Wall and the greater collapse of authoritarian communism. America remains adamant in defence of the West, but would like to reduce this commitment. Helmut Kohl, Germany's Chancellor, having reunited the country within its 1945 boundaries, is now proposing that this bigger, stronger country be locked into a wider European Union — or else, he says, it might throw its weight around. His Germany is still uncertain about

how much to rearm and what role its armed forces should have.

The French Government seeks monetary union to curb the German mark, and is prepared to accept political union as the price. The French people are growing increasingly hostile and restive as the cost of the economic policy mounts daily and as inner fears come to the surface. Italy, Spain, Greece and Portugal are nervously wondering whether they will be allowed in, while Britain and Scandinavia wonder aloud if they will be permitted to stay out.

What is the modern German problem? Chancellor Kohl seems to fear a return to German expansionism, yet modern Germany is a peace-loving democracy. It would lose a lot by disrupting the peace, and is not as heavily armed as Britain or France, let alone America. The easy answer to the fears of some countries is to carry on with Nato and maintain the present military balance. It is also important to follow economic policies that promote employment, technology and open trade rather than the opposite.

It is true that many Germans still live outside the borders of Germany. There

are Germans living in the Czech Republic, in Poland, in Hungary and in Austria. But why should this again become an issue which could disfigure international politics? For 50 years the position has been stable. There does not need to be any change in boundaries. It would only become a worry if Germany changed as it changed in the 1930s, and used this as an excuse to lay claim to other countries.

The big difference between the peace of 1919 and the peace of 1945 lay in the way Germany was handled. In 1919, revenge led the Allies to damage the German economy, demanding substantial reparations for financial loss. In 1945, the Allies concentrated on helping Germany to rebuild its shattered economy and to construct a stable democracy, while ensuring that Germany was no longer heavily armed. The 1945 approach was much more successful than that of 1919.

Chancellor Kohl is living in the past. Nazism was born of poverty in the German people. Hitler responded to the lack of national self-esteem caused by the punitive peace and the defeat, and found there a ready recruiting ground

for barbarism. Today there is no worry of extreme right-wing or extreme left-wing groups winning elections and then overthrowing the democracy.

Chancellor Kohl's language is more worrying. He seems to be saying to the governments of Western Europe that Germany may bully now that she is bigger. He offers us the favour of joining Germany's idea of a federal European state before it is too late. Britain must say no. The only answer, were Germany ever to bully us, is to stand up to it. The picture of Tony Blair alongside Chancellor Kohl revealed the naivety of new Labour standing in the shadow of the new Germany.

The United States would rather not have to worry about Europe. There is a strand of thinking in the State Department and Washington which likes the idea of dealing with one big power in Europe. But shortly after German reunification there was a shiver of understanding of how that might go wrong when Germany cut its own deal with Russia. There was another when the European Community found it very difficult to line up alongside the free-traders in the Gatt debates.

Football is a good way of letting off steam. We should remember it is only a game. It is good sometimes to ask the basic questions about Britain's relationship with Germany. It will be even better to watch the match safe in the knowledge that Nato will keep the peace and the European Union will assist with trade. Win or lose, it is time for Britain to give some alternative leadership to Europe, based on our mature understanding of the realities of power on our continent.

As England warms up for Wembley, John Redwood asks if Chancellor Kohl is preparing to bully Europe

## Stand up to Germany, on and off the field

England's football fixture against Germany has raised more than the usual hyperbole, lurid headlines and hot air. There is something special about the contest. It has stirred deep feelings.

It invites us all to think again about the problem of Germany. The German question has bedevilled Europe in the 20th century. When peace followed the Allies' victory in 1945, the German question was temporarily resolved by splitting Germany, by occupying it, by dismantling it. Germany responded magnificently by establishing a flourishing democracy in the West, turning to the arts of peace and pursuing trade, industry and prosperity.

For 45 years, this settlement worked. The German question was suspended, replaced by the issue of how far communism would expand, and how West Berlin could be defended against a Soviet takeover. The threat of the Soviet Union's military might kept the United States strongly committed to peace in Europe, and kept the centre of Europe weak. The German plains were used for Nato or Soviet tank-training.

The world has been slow to adjust to the pulling down of the Berlin Wall and the greater collapse of authoritarian communism. America remains adamant in defence of the West, but would like to reduce this commitment. Helmut Kohl, Germany's Chancellor, having reunited the country within its 1945 boundaries, is now proposing that this bigger, stronger country be locked into a wider European Union — or else, he says, it might throw its weight around. His Germany is still uncertain about

how much to rearm and what role its armed forces should have.

The French Government seeks monetary union to curb the German mark, and is prepared to accept political union as the price. The French people are growing increasingly hostile and restive as the cost of the economic policy mounts daily and as inner fears come to the surface. Italy, Spain, Greece and Portugal are nervously wondering whether they will be allowed in, while Britain and Scandinavia wonder aloud if they will be permitted to stay out.

What is the modern German problem? Chancellor Kohl seems to fear a return to German expansionism, yet modern Germany is a peace-loving democracy. It would lose a lot by disrupting the peace, and is not as heavily armed as Britain or France, let alone America. The easy answer to the fears of some countries is to carry on with Nato and maintain the present military balance. It is also important to follow economic policies that promote employment, technology and open trade rather than the opposite.

It is true that many Germans still live outside the borders of Germany. There

are Germans living in the Czech Republic, in Poland, in Hungary and in Austria. But why should this again become an issue which could disfigure international politics? For 50 years the position has been stable. There does not need to be any change in boundaries. It would only become a worry if Germany changed as it changed in the 1930s, and used this as an excuse to lay claim to other countries.

The big difference between the peace of 1919 and the peace of 1945 lay in the way Germany was handled. In 1919, revenge led the Allies to damage the German economy, demanding substantial reparations for financial loss. In 1945, the Allies concentrated on helping Germany to rebuild its shattered economy and to construct a stable democracy, while ensuring that Germany was no longer heavily armed. The 1945 approach was much more successful than that of 1919.

Chancellor Kohl is living in the past. Nazism was born of poverty in the German people. Hitler responded to the lack of national self-esteem caused by the punitive peace and the defeat, and found there a ready recruiting ground

for barbarism. Today there is no worry of extreme right-wing or extreme left-wing groups winning elections and then overthrowing the democracy.

Chancellor Kohl's language is more worrying. He seems to be saying to the governments of Western Europe that Germany may bully now that she is bigger. He offers us the favour of joining Germany's idea of a federal European state before it is too late. Britain must say no. The only answer, were Germany ever to bully us, is to stand up to it. The picture of Tony Blair alongside Chancellor Kohl revealed the naivety of new Labour standing in the shadow of the new Germany.

The United States would rather not have to worry about Europe. There is a strand of thinking in the State Department and Washington which likes the idea of dealing with one big power in Europe. But shortly after German reunification there was a shiver of understanding of how that might go wrong when Germany cut its own deal with Russia. There was another when the European Community found it very difficult to line up alongside the free-traders in the Gatt debates.

Football is a good way of letting off steam. We should remember it is only a game. It is good sometimes to ask the basic questions about Britain's relationship with Germany. It will be even better to watch the match safe in the knowledge that Nato will keep the peace and the European Union will assist with trade. Win or lose, it is time for Britain to give some alternative leadership to Europe, based on our mature understanding of the realities of power on our continent.

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### Gillian Shephard's White Paper is a shambles which cannot conceal the cruelty of segregating children too early



The way they were: pupils sitting the 11-plus in 1964, on the eve of the comprehensive revolution

Parental choice is now vanishing from Tory education policy just like the Cheshire Cat's smile. Mrs Shephard says she wants "selection as a regular feature" of British secondary education. But her sort of selection is selection by school, not by parents. Any student of school enrolment knows that there is no such thing as partial selection. Make any school's entry exclusive and the outcome is straightforward. As in selective Buckinghamshire or Kent, every primary child sits the 11-plus exam. Those selected by the grammar school are offered a place. The schools for those rejected are not true comprehensives. This is Hobson's choice. It insults public intelligence to call it otherwise.

The White Paper is almost entirely in code. It follows the 1944 Education Act in assuming that roughly a third of British children can be assessed in infancy as suited to (let's face it) better schools than the rest. As in 1944, much euphemism surrounds the remainder, mostly waffle about "technical specialism". Policymakers may be fooled, but not parents. Before 1965, 70 per cent of British children went to second-rate schools, knew it, and hated it. The post-1965 comprehensive system had its faults, not least because it

Simon Jenkins

came at a time of misguided teaching theory. Grammar schools, which should have continued as high schools or sixth-form colleges, were too often ruined. But vastly more children received a decent education than before, and numbers staying in the system after 16 soared.

Since then, all surveys and local voices indicate that parents have continued to regard 11-plus segregation as coming far too early. What they want, and mostly get, is streaming within schools. This policy — "a grammar stream in every school" — is supported by Labour and exists in most education authorities and schools. It has nothing to do with grammar schools, and is no offence to comprehensive transfer at 11. But this does not offer Downing Street the "clear blue water" between its policy and

Labour's. So Mrs Shephard must declare that the gains of the past three decades have "lowered standards alarmingly". This is untrue and does no credit to her or the service she leads.

She is ordered to find new grammar schools. They are to be created not with new money but by inducing the most popular comprehensives to leave competition behind and to "opt in" to a national system, run by the Funding Agency for Schools. All pretence that these schools, which now educate about 20 per cent of secondary pupils, are not engaged in selection is abandoned. So claims to the contrary (and to my face) from successive Education Secretaries are lies: they always were. Mrs Shephard's department has tried to retain some local freedom. She at least believes that "governors, teachers and parents" know what is "best for the community" and should have some choice in the matter. Mr Major disagrees. He thinks he knows best, and he wants grammar schools everywhere.

More important, he wants the Funding Agency (that is, central government) to run these schools and to claim credit for the "most excellent" schools in the land. This upends what was once sound

Tory philosophy, that the central State should direct most help to those least able to fend for themselves. Here the central State wants only the best. Last month the Government even mooted that selective schools might get money above their per capita entitlement as a reward for their popularity.

The means whereby "a grammar in every town" is to be pursued are grotesque. Funding Agency schools are to be allowed to select 50 per cent of their entry by academic test, compared with just 20 per cent for local council schools. This is ludicrously unfair and makes no sense: why not come clean and let all schools select? It also gives the lie to Mrs Shephard's claim that hers is not a two-tier system. The device is intended not just to persuade popular schools to opt for Funding Agency control; it also ensures that schools left behind will remain at a competitive disadvantage. The proposal is for a social as well as an educational oligopoly — in the hope that it may induce a few lucky 11-plus winners to vote Tory.

Such discrimination can only harm the schools in which the majority of children will be taught. Already Mrs Shephard's department is seeking to close 34 sixth-forms in Kent for fear of their competing with grammar schools. At the behest of parents, these schools have been helping pupils to recover from rejection in Kent's 11-plus by developing as comprehensives. Mrs Shephard's civil servants mean to stop them. The White Paper claims that the Agency can interfere in this way with council schools "to encourage competition". That must be a misprint for "stifle". Such cynicism must hasten the day when some European supreme court subjects British policy to judicial review.

I cannot believe this policy will fulfil its major premise, of bringing wavering Tories back to the party. The only role envisaged for parents in the White Paper is to vote to have the school that selects (or rejects) their child run by Mrs Shephard's Funding Agency. Parents should beware. When past governments seized hospitals, prisons and, more recently, water companies from local councils, they also did so in the cause of rationalisation and efficiency. That is now a hollow laugh. Within five years, I bet the Agency will be delivering directives to "opt out" schools by the vanload.

After the 1965 reorganisation, I was convinced that wherever further reform might lead, it would not be back to institutional selection at 11. The divisiveness, the double-talk, the cruelty to children in their formative years, were too much to stomach. The Tory party showed political maturity in accepting this, though most 11-plus winners were its supporters. Selection at 11 was too unfair. It was for history's dustbin. We seem to be watching a party determined to join it there.

## Grey threat

ENGLAND have reluctantly accepted their grey football strip, but morale is likely to plummet even further: our boys may now have to put up with the Grey Man. John Major, Prime Minister and notorious jinx at sporting events, has brought forward a speech he is planning to make this evening, which leaves him time to attend the semi-final against Germany.

His supporters might welcome his attendance, but football fans are concerned. Whenever John Major turns out to support his team at Chelsea, they invariably lose. "People think 'Oh God' when they see him," explains a club executive. "They think they haven't a chance if he is there."

Major's nemesis came when Chelsea lost 4-0 to Manchester United in the 1994 FA Cup Final. Jeering Chelsea supporters chanted "Jonah, Jonah" at the bespectacled PM because he had brought them such bad luck. "We lose every time he attends Chelsea," says one fan. "He should be banned."

The Prime Minister is not unaware of his predicament, and may yet avoid the match. So sensitive is

he that he refused to allow photographers to snap him watching England's game against Spain on the television in Florence. "He banned all photographers," says a source. "He was very nervous."

● The Oscar Foundation has a touch of the luvvies. It has sent a legal letter to Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector of Schools, complaining about reports that he



refers privately to his annual awards to outstanding schools as the education "Oscars".

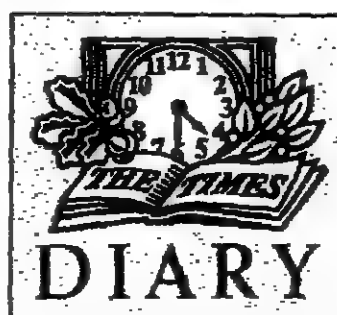
### Shirty

A BIZARRE attempt to bring Euro 96 to Wembley was foiled yesterday. Alan Mills, the tournament referee, has refused a request from brothers Luke and Murphy Jensen, the American players who grabbed the headlines last year when Murphy was defaulted for going awol on a fishing trip. They wanted to play doubles matches in white England football shirts.

"We are pretty upset about it," says Murphy. "We were told that it was because they weren't tennis shirts, but Agassi's long-sleeved shirt with a zip down the middle did not look like a tennis shirt and he was allowed to wear it."

### Close look

HENRY KISSINGER is in London, doubtless hoping for another glimpse of the cleavage of the Princess of Wales that he so admired at a society dinner last year in New York. But at a dinner this evening he will have to confine himself to the delights of Carla Powell, wife of



Sir Charles. She has organised a small soiree for him in the Marie Antoinette Room at the Ritz, where the cast is limited to the John Redwoods, the Douglas Hurds and the Malcolm Rifkind.

### Big screen

RENTAL firms are enjoying a run on televisions as party hosts desperately try to persuade their guests not to stay at home and watch the football. Brian Eno, Bob Geldof and Mick Jagger have all told Marie Helvin that they cannot attend her summer party unless they can watch the match — so she has brought in three televisions. Bill Kenwright, the theatrical impresario and director of Everton Football Club, has to sit through

the first night of Neil Simon's play *The Odd Couple*, which he is staging, and follow on with a first night party. "I tried to postpone it but the critics wouldn't agree," he grumbles. "Three-quarters of the guest list have said 'no, thank you'."

### Bombs away

MORE excitement at the *Daily Mirror*, where the youthful Editor Piers Morgan apologised yesterday after his front page this week showing two England footballers sporting tin helmets and demanding a German surrender.

"Guten" Morgan has a fine selection of German uniforms stored in a disused office in the *Mirror* building, with which he was planning to kit out his *Wehrmacht* reporters. One *Kommandant* at the newspaper had suggested hiring a Lancaster bomber to drop bouncing inflatable bombs bearing the *Mirror* logo along the Thames.

Both the uniforms and bouncing-bomb project have been abandoned, along with Guten's visionary plan to invade Germany in a tank driven by his troops. A conciliatory tone was adopted yesterday when the paper asked the Archbishop of Canterbury to write a football prayer. Dr Carey couldn't plodge, but



Don't mind me, your Highness, I'll just straighten this out

another bishop scribbled some words which will not be appearing. The sentence "Bless those who watch, that their support may be faithful and just, not fuelled by tribal hatred or narrow pride" was deemed unprintable.

### Hair today

THE SPANISH court is reeling from an extraordinary breach of etiquette committed by the Chinese President Jiang Zemin. As King

Juan Carlos struck up earnest conversation with the panda-like President, who is visiting Spain this week, Mr Jiang felt a strand of Brylcreemed hair fall down on to his forehead.

Without a by-your-leave, he eased his hand into his coat pocket and proceeded to comb the jet-black lock back into place. The King, whose own hair is receding, looked on quite speechless.

P.H.S

هكذا من الأصل















# Millionaires apply now to the ITC

Don't you love lists? Try this. Bob Phillips, Liz Forgan, John Tusa, Sir Norman Fowler, Sir Michael Checkland. They are all names bruited for chairman of the Independent Television Commission. The top post at the ITC falls vacant at the end of this year.

Until a year ago, the incumbent chairman, the long-serving and admired Sir George Russell, might have been expected to move over to the BBC when Marmaduke Hussey stepped down aged 73 this spring. But when in April 1995 Sir George, at 60 as covered with non-executive chairmanships as some people are with tattoos, added yet another to his collection — the Camelot Group (operators of the National Lottery) — he effectively took himself out of the running. Another millionaire, Sir Christopher Bland, himself the former deputy chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, the ITC's forerunner, took the BBC crown instead.

Among candidates for the ITC chairmanship, the BBC's deputy director-general Mr Phillips heads the list. Ostensibly second in command to John Birt, Mr Phillips is the highest-ranking among those top BBC executives who were not told of the massive impending reorganisation until just before it was announced this month.

To outsiders, the amiable Mr Phillips shines as the ideal leader for what is still, in many British hearts, "the other side". He knows ITV and its discontents from the inside out. Before being plucked for the BBC, he had been managing director of the highly successful Carlton Television, although much in the shadow of his boss, Carlton's founder Michael Green, and then went on to Independent Television News.

At ITN Mr Phillips would have learnt about one of the ITC's hardest tasks: to resist the plea of the regional television companies to move News at Ten to a less intrusive slot in the evening schedules. Just last week, at the Royal Television Society, Bruce Gyngell, of Yorkshire-Type Tees, raised the cry once more. He called the 30-minute news programme a "strangling constrictor". But the ITC is charged by Parliament with keeping an element of public service. And moving the news to 6.30pm or 11pm, marginalising it in the American manner, is not on.

But speculation is probably irrelevant. The ITC job is not big enough for Mr Phillips, aged 50. Nor, at £63,000 a year, is the pay. His BBC salary is about three times what the ITC chairman earns. Sir George has not had to think of such things. As chairman of Marley Tiles since 1989, he ranks among the highest-paid executives in Britain.

Heading the ITC is a job for someone who

is above the battle. Hence, some of the other favoured names: John Tusa, former head of the BBC World Service, now chief executive of the Barbican; Sir Michael Checkland, former BBC Director-General; and possibly Liz Forgan, the recently departed BBC Radio managing director.

The appointment, in the gift of the Government, has been filled by a woman once before. Lady Plowden was chairman of the IBA from 1975 to 1980, and is still remembered for the brisk "Come along, Brian" with which she summoned her chief executive, Sir Brian Young. No government has yet seen fit to grace the BBC with a woman on top.

The ITC chairmanship is no sinecure. The commission must take commercial decisions which are highly controversial and subject to judicial review. Sir George has faced two court challenges. TSW took the ITC to court after losing its ITV franchise to Westcountry Television in 1992. And, more recently, the losers in the Channel 5 race fought the decision in court. To the credit of Sir George and his chief executive, David Glencross, the ITC's judgments were upheld in both cases.

So, now that Channels 3, 4 and 5 are set on course, there are two main tasks left at ITC. One is to regulate programmes for sex, violence and bad language. The commission handles this well when it does general performance reviews, but it is in danger of bending over backwards to deal with pernicious complaints from very small numbers of viewers. Its monthly complaints bulletin is unnecessary.

The hard, even impossible, duty ahead concerns terrestrial digital television (DTT). Bruce Gyngell was right to say that this has no future. Satellite television will provide myriad new digital channels well before the more limited terrestrial variety gets going.

But the ITC has to go through the motions of awarding digital terrestrial franchises because Parliament has decreed it. The commission's 135-page draft, *Invitation to Apply*, suggests rules that are inappropriate, specific and complex for an unknown new business. The new ITC chairman's delicate task, therefore, will be to lead the commission in choosing some digital applicants over others. Yet at the same time he or she must find a way to explain to politicians that they went out of their depth in the digital clauses of the new Broadcasting Bill. The truth is that neither the experience nor the expertise exists for the ITC to make any reasoned judgment.



BRENDA MADDOX

## It's not so good for you, Bob

BT is expected to drop its television frontman, Bob Hoskins, from its advertisements — at least temporarily — because viewers outside the South East are becoming cheesed off with his cheeky chappy London accent.

To redress the regional balance, Abbott Mead Vickers, the company's advertising agency, is said to be considering running a campaign featuring Billy Connolly, the actor and comedian best known for his coarse humour and his broad Scots.

It's good to talk, but not, it seems, in a cockney accent.

**Synchro scribbling**  
THIS year's spectacular summer of sport is clearly putting strains on the nation's over-worked sports journalists. With so many column inches

to be filled, editors are having to cast their nets far and wide to find competent writers.

None was more stretched than John Lovesey, the editor of *The Sunday Times* alphabetical pullout supplement, "1,000 Makers of Sports", who appeared to be running short of contributors by the time he reached the letter "M".

Fortunately, Lovesey had a brainwave. Who better to write the supplement's glowing tribute to the Channel swimmer Kevin Murphy than Murphy himself?

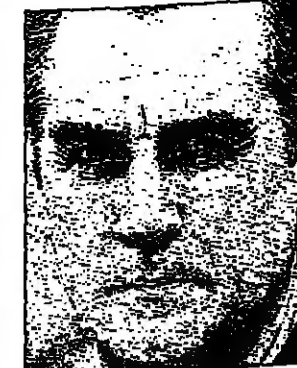
He is, after all, a journalist with Independent Radio News. It was entirely fitting, then, that Murphy, who was the first Briton to swim the Channel both ways, should open his entry with the words "In 1970 a respected journalist wrote of Kevin Murphy: 'There is about him a terrible resolve'".

And who might this "respected journalist" be? Why, John Lovesey, of course!

**Queen's new title**  
ATTEMPTS by American broadcasters to woo Chris-



Is BT about to replace Bob Hoskins with Billy Connolly?



Is BT about to replace Bob Hoskins with Billy Connolly?

tiane Amanpour, undisputed Queen of the Sarajevo media corps, away from CNN have failed. Well, almost failed. After months of offer and counter-offer, during which seven-figure sums were bandied about, Amanpour, who is considered one of the toughest cookies on the war scene, has landed herself a dream deal that must make her one of the hottest properties on the international news circuit.

She will continue working with CNN, but with the fancy title of "chief international correspondent". In addition,

her contract will enable her to contribute at least five pieces a year to CBS's much respected *60 Minutes*, the granddaddy of all US news magazine programmes.

While it may be pushing it a bit for Britain to claim credit for Amanpour's success, she was born in London and did get one of her first breaks on the BBC's *The World Tonight*.

**IN DEATH** as in life, Andreas Papandreu, the former Greek Prime Minister, maintained his ability to confound the press. On Sunday, the day

he died, *The Observer* was confidently assuring its readers that the veteran socialist "is still a force to be reckoned with".

## Pet project

EVER bent on their efforts to distinguish their products from their rivals, the marketing people at Pedigree, the pet-food company, have taken to sending birthday greetings to their customers' dogs and cats. Lucky hounds and pussies who eat Shelia and Caesar from the Pedigree range will receive, on their special day — if their owner has played ball — a card from the company featuring a picture of a dog or a cat.

Michael Jenkins, Pedigree's PR manager, sheepishly explains that the cards are designed to give a friendly touch to the company's direct-marketing plan.

He says: "We find that it is very beneficial to have an interactive relationship with our customers. We can communicate about our products and build a one-to-one relationship with them."

## Campaign to rehabilitate beef begins



The beef industry fights back

THE BEEF industry is bravely putting its head above the parapet this week and mounting its first advertising campaign since the BSE scare gripped the nation three months ago. Starting with a top-of-the-water press campaign by BMP DDB tomorrow, it will develop into a bold national TV blitz next week followed by posters.

Exhaustive research has shown that most consumer worries focus on mince, so the posters and press work, across all national newspapers, is specifically tailored to address this.

The TV campaign consists of a 50-second ad which was initially scheduled for March but had to be put back because the scare over the link between BSE and British beef broke just two days before the ad was due to go out.

ST LUKE's, the groovy agency which has introduced West Coast advertising practices here in the form of virtual offices and hot-desking (otherwise known as working from home), is now pioneering "method advertising" — an approach to pitching for business and creating ads which involves total immersion in the brand.

The agency already tested this when

## ADVERTISING

it competed, successfully, for Ikea in March by sending staff to work in the store for a few days; now it is fighting for the £6 million Parkworld account.

Preparations have involved away days at Bultins in Bognor and stays at Haven Holiday Centres where St



BELINDA ARCHER

Luke's acolytes have been spotted donning giant Elvis wigs, playing bingo and entering extracurricular karate competitions. "We go along and get really involved in what the client does and what the customer is like. That makes the advertising much truer to the brand," says one enthusi-

ast. Whether Parkworld will be impressed remains to be seen.

EURO 96 is proving a challenge not only for footballers but also for advertising agencies, eager to achieve "stand-out" for their clients among the glut of commercial messages.

Pedestrian 30-second TV spots and predictable perimeter ads are being tossed aside in favour of an array of novel stunts, dubbed "ambient media" by outdoor specialists Concord who have dreamt up many of the ideas.

These include the branding of the entire Wembley Central Tube station by Snickers, and Mastercard mooring an airship above Wembley, as well as sneaking logos onto microphones which are shovelled into Terry Venables' interviews alongside the regular TV reporters' mike. Even Nike has mounted a giant banner on a building adjacent to the Manchester venue.

Concord estimates that at least £2 million has been invested in alternative media for Euro 96, but the value of the TV exposure they are securing is incalculable. Sources say the more traditional sponsors and advertisers are considering official complaints.

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The BBC is putting all its eggs in one basket. But is this good or bad news for customers, asks Alexandra Freen

# Will we lose our voice in the world?

If the BBC were starting its news operation from scratch, says Tony Hall, now chief executive BBC News, it would be crazy for it to set up separate departments in Broadcasting House (home of network radio), Bush House (home of the World Service) and Television Centre (home of television news).

In attempting to justify the regrouping of the corporation's entire news output into a single base at Television Centre under a single management structure, Mr Hall paints a touching and cosy picture of journalistic nirvana with reporters all pulling together and in the same direction.

"By putting all of the BBC's news operations into a single building they can become more than the sum of their parts. Journalists will be able to encourage each other and widen each other's perception of what's happening in the world. Journalists out in the field will have more outlets and so a much wider audience to broadcast to," says Mr Hall.

**'I have no doubt that if we do nothing, we won't survive'**

There will also, he adds, be considerable efficiency savings, brought about by economies of scale, the use of new digital editing equipment and by multiskilling, which — in theory — will enable reporters to turn their hand as easily to radio or television as to writing a report to be put out on the Internet. As if this were not already enough, the BBC also intends to derive a new stream of income by selling to other broadcasters the multimillion-pound customised digital editing system that is planned to install.

Real life, of course, is not like this. Many in the World Service, for example, fear that by turning it into a paying customer forced to buy in news from a centralised BBC News (at a price to be determined by BBC News), it will lose its distinctive voice.

After all, it is precisely its "difference" from the BBC's domestic output that has made the BBC World Service news so great.

The World Service does not owe its reputation to its name or the initials "BBC", but to its output and its ability to respond to the subtle sensibilities of different countries around the globe. To paraphrase George Bush: it's the programmes, stupid.

If the World Service has its own distinctive voice, so, too, does BBC World, the corporation's international, commercial television news service, run by its commercial arm BBC Worldwide, which will also be a paying customer of BBC News.

It is all very well for the BBC's domestic news, for example, to take the intellectual high ground, but different editorial values are needed with BBC World, which has to compete with the likes of CNN, Sky News and NBC Superchannel. There are bound to be minor problems, too, in persuading some of the corporation's older, highly respected and valued reporters to adapt to the brave new digital world of multiskilling.

While Mr Hall recognises some of these potential problems, he clearly believes that the BBC has no alternative but to reorganise to meet growing competition at home and abroad. "I have no doubt that if we do nothing, we will not survive," he says.

Although his concern about the current strength of competition from rival news providers such as the cable business channel, EBN, Channel One, Live TV (yes, he did say Live TV), NBC Superchannel, CNN and Sky News, and the burgeoning commercial radio sector, may be slightly exaggerated, there is no doubt that the voice of BBC News is in danger of being drowned out by rivals.

BBC World provides an apposite case. For all its success in Europe and the Far East (where it is available in 43 million homes), the channel still has not managed to find a single cable company in the United States with room enough to carry it on their systems. The channel is now resigned to having to wait for a slot on a digital



Tony Hall, chief executive BBC News. "I want to loosen things up to bring in a younger audience"

broadcasting system to secure its first foothold in North America. It is simply not enough, it appears, for the station to have a brand-name unrivalled in the broadcasting industry and access to an immense contemporary and historical news, current affairs and documentary archive made to the highest production values in the world. With so much competition about, what BBC World really needs is marketing nous and there are no signs that the restructuring, which will require it to buy in its programmes from a centralised BBC News in London, will make the slightest difference on this front.

Mr Hall appears impatient with such arguments, stressing instead the importance of the BBC's core

values of integrity, impartiality and "editorial sanity" in establishing its proper place in the international marketplace. His overriding concern is that in order to beat the competition, the BBC is able to deliver news to audiences in any form at any time they want it.

In the UK his first step on this road will be the launch of an online news service. Next will come a 24-hour, free-to-air digital television news channel in the UK, possibly as early as January 1998 when the Government hopes the first digital terrestrial services will be made available in Britain to viewers able to invest in the necessary receiving equipment.

Mr Hall hopes that the new channel will have some of the freshness and sheer breadth of coverage of Radio 5 Live and that it will bring in new viewers from commercial television. To help achieve this he has appointed Tim Orchard, editor of BBC breakfast news, as project co-ordinator for the new channel, reporting to Jenny Abramsky, the new head of continuous news.

Mr Hall envisages news programmes set in a real-life news room, with the coming and going of reporters seen in the background, similar to the current BBC programme *Westminster Live*. "I want to loosen up the atmosphere and to bring in a younger audience," he says.

## A great service to Britain

The planned BBC shake-up has alarmed World Service supporters. Sam Younger, its managing director, explains his vision

A House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on the BBC World Service, the chairman, David Howell, referred to it as the tip on the spearhead of Britain's presence and influence around the world.

My vision is of a World Service in the 21st century which plays that role yet more effectively by providing able to adapt to changing conditions and to exploit new technologies while preserving the core of its identity and status as a key exponent of the best of Britain.

To millions of listeners worldwide, the World Service is the very essence of public service, an essential tool. And in these days of accounting for the cost of everything, we should not be diffident about making the case for it on this basis.

I think, for example, of Afghanistan and Somalia, where our services in Pashto and Somali, although on air for less than 90 minutes a day, have the status of the main national broadcaster. I think of Iran, where our broadcasts in Persian meet a need not just for accurate news but for a window on both Persian and Western culture. And in Burma, the BBC still provides almost the only source of information on the Opposition that won the country's last election but was never allowed to take power. Only last month, Aung San Suu Kyi could be heard speaking to the Burmese people through the BBC's airwaves.

big development of recent years has been the increasing readiness of radio stations in many countries to place World Service programmes in their own schedules on FM or medium wave. What the World Service can offer increasingly is the BBC as a partner. This emphatically does not mean trying to compete anywhere as a local broadcaster but leveraging what I see as the two most valuable historic assets of the World Service — the excellence of its journalistic and production standards and its global perspective and coverage.

An example of an area where this is already becoming a reality occurred last January. A prime-time programme was launched that is a co-production between the BBC and a leading public station, Boston's WGBH. The idea is that the BBC's global news and current affairs agenda can be made to appeal to an American audience even in the key listening times if it is integrated with what is identifiably an American product aimed at the American market.



Younger: meeting a need

The programme, *The World*, is co-presented from studios in London and Boston, its international news coming from the World Service newsroom and its programme contributions coming from both sides of the Atlantic. It is now aired by 55 stations.

In many of our most important markets, not just in Europe but in the Far East and the Indian sub-continent, our role will change from sole or main provider to "mediator" for those who find that the possible sources are so varied that they need help to decide what is true and what is important in an increasingly interdependent world.

With this in mind, one of the key developments we are exploring is digital technology — which will eventually replace short wave with high-quality signals. This will provide, alongside our present English-language schedule, with its rich mix of news, culture and education, a 24-hour channel devoted entirely to news and current affairs. I see a World Service reaching out ever more effectively, increasingly in partnership with those it seeks to reach, to the benefit of this country. As time goes on, Britain's international standing and reputation are likely to be even more dependent on the intangible assets which — I hope — it will be imaginative enough to sustain.

This article has been adapted from a speech that the author will give to the Royal Institute of International Affairs at the QE2 conference centre tonight.

## Day the *Daily Mirror* went right over the top

As I know only too well from my experience of the Hitler Diaries on the *Sunday Times* and the day the *Today* newspaper splashed with the news that the Princess of Wales was pregnant — she wasn't — there are gut-wrenching moments in all editors' lives when they know they've got it wrong and have made a giant error of judgement.

They know, too, that their rivals are rejoicing and millions of readers are relishing their humiliation.

Such a moment occurred on Monday for Piers Morgan, the Editor of the *Daily Mirror*, when he found all too quickly that his declaration of "war" on Germany ahead of tonight's Euro 96 semi-final — "Achtmal! Surrender. For you Fritz, 2:0 Euro 96 Championship is over!" — accompanied by pictures of Gazza and Sheringham in steel helmets — had utterly misfired and failed to raise the chuckles he expected.

He was attacked on the BBC *Today* programme and the Press Complaints Commission received a record number of complaints. There were angry faxes from readers and he was repudiated by his bosses. Yesterday Vauxhall, one of the sponsors of Euro 96, waved the red

card and withdrew its advertising (as it also did from the *Daily Star* which was still peddling "Mein Gott" and "Krauts" in its headlines).

I hated the *Mirror's* shaming anti-German journalism on Monday just as much as its gibes against Spain last week when it published "10 Nasties Spain's Given Europe", which included syphilis, Spanish flu and the Inquisition. That, however, had the saving grace of a touch of wit. Also included was *Eldorado*: "All right, the BBC gave it us, but Spain allowed it to be filmed there".

There are occasions when editors know they have gone over the top. Yesterday, as Morgan retreated under fire, there was not a whiff of xenophobia in the *Daily Mirror*. He declared "Peas in our time" (in yet another of the ghastly puns that all the tabloids are using) and his Sunday *Sunday Mirror* showed front page picture German Jurgen Klinsmann, the German captain, accepting a



goodwill gift and peace offering of a Harrods hamper. At the *Sun* they were joking about "apppppment".

As Stuart Higgins, the Editor of *The Sun*, pointed out, Morgan put himself offside on Monday by sliding over the fine line between jingoism (OK) and xenophobia (definitely not OK). Getting that judgment right, sensing the public mood, carrying readers with your editorial decisions, is the skill of editorship.

At both the *News of the World* and the *Daily Mirror* over the past two years, Morgan has shown that he has that skill — and only a

month ago he resolutely resisted the xenophobia of his rivals when John Major launched his anti-European beef war. So it is difficult not to feel a sneaking sympathy for him and to think it is better a mass tabloid editor is occasionally outrageous than too timid.

With *The Sun* selling 1.6 million more copies a day than the *Daily Mirror* — and sales of both papers up by 100,000 after England matches — he has constantly to look over his shoulder and try to second-guess his main rival. He was wrong-footed on Monday only by trying to out-*Sun The Sun*, which meanwhile outwitted Morgan by relegating Euro 96 to a sidebar celebrating the contribution to England's success of the 40,000 hats the newspaper handed to fans, and led on a picture of *Baywatch's* Pamela Anderson, husband Tommy Lee and new baby Brandon Thomas clad in black leather.

One happy consequence of Morgan's misjudgment was an unusual outbreak of pro-German sentiment yesterday in the rest of the British press, with the *Daily Mail* denouncing jingoism, the *Daily Express* praising Germany and *The Independent*, published by the Mirror Group, devoting most of a page to Teutonic creativity and headlining its front page: "Don't be beastly to the Germans".

There was also an outbreak of humour, in the German press, particularly in *Bild*, Germany's *Sun*. Among 11 *Sun*-style questions it posed for the English yesterday were: Why have you never won the European championship? Why do you look like freshly-cooked lobsters after one day on the beach? Andreas Koepke, the German goalkeeper, was surprised that the *Mirror* had managed to find a steel helmet big enough for Gascogne.

Often in the past the tabloids have built up England's sporting heroes, only to crucify them when they fail. That will not happen if, God forbid, England lose tonight. Both Higgins and Morgan agree that after their performances in Euro 96, England have reached Frank Bruno status. They will still be heroes.

## Choose your video release from a hole in the wall

The first hole-in-the-wall dispenser issuing videos and CD-Roms has been launched in Britain by Cinemat UK.

Customers in Islington, north London, with a personalised smart card will be able to choose from up to 520 of the latest video releases, or 910 CD-Roms at any time of the day, seven days a week.

Thomas Oronti, the director of Cinemat UK, says: "The video rental market is picking up again, but the market is still very much off

Nicole Veash looks at a marketing revolution from Italy that promises to end the rental monopoly by offering cut-price videos from a dispenser

These machines allow people to choose the films they want to watch any time of the day or night.

Dispensers were launched seven years ago in Italy, where there are now 4,000 machines. Video club members can select a movie using a genre, title, actor or director. A summary of the plot is given on-screen alongside a computer-generated graphic showing the front cover of the video.

The machine, which costs £21,900 to buy, also has a slot for videos to be returned. They can be programmed so that children are permitted to take out only U or PG-rated films.

Mr Oronti says: "These machines can be put anywhere. In Italy it is common to leave an area of another

business and not to have a shop at all." Prices can be set depending on time of return, with six hours' hire costing about £1.80, 12 hours about £2.50 and 24 hours £3.00.

Lavinia Carey, director-general of the British Video Association, says: "Many people have looked at launching this system in the UK and decided there are a number of problems with it. Customers lose the ability to browse and they don't see any advertising. And there is a problem with children getting age-restricted videos when they borrow their parents' card."

But Rob Mead, news editor of *TV Magazine*, says: "Anything that breaks down the video rental monopoly and broadens access to videos is a good thing."

The video rental industry boomed last year, with *Forrest Gump* the most popular choice.

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Today *The Times* gives you the chance to win the award-winning Alfa Romeo Spider, worth £22,000.

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For your chance to win the Alfa Romeo Spider collect six differently numbered tokens from those appearing daily in *The Times* until Friday, June 28, 1996. (You may enter twice if you wish.) Send them with the completed entry form to: *The Times* Spider Prize Draw Competition, 16 Whitefriars St, London EC3R 2NG.

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The prize draw is open to all *Times* readers over 18. The winner will be chosen at random from all entries received before the closing date of Monday, July 8, 1996. The prize is not transferable. There is no cash alternative.

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